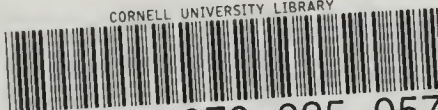


ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
AT
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

NOV 10 1960

DEMCO 38-297



3 1924 070 835 057



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
BHL-SIL-FEDLINK

<https://archive.org/details/prothonotary4749unse>

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

VOLUME 47

JANUARY 1981

NUMBER 1

JUL 21 1981

THE MONTH

December was a month of contrasting weather patterns. The first two days were characterized by unseasonably warm weather which dissipated rapidly during violent gale force winds and heavy snow during the night of December 2nd-3rd. Three days of seasonable weather were followed by a fresh surge of warm Gulf air on the 7th. The high temperature of the month, 60°(F) was recorded on December 8th while dense fog settled on the Niagara River causing a heavy waterfowl kill at Niagara Falls where several hundred ducks and geese plunged to their death over the fog-shrouded Horseshoe Falls on December 9th. The weather for the rest of the month was seasonable until a deep trough of high pressure settled on the area following a snow storm on December 24th tumbling temperature readings at Buffalo Airport to record lows of -3°(F) on that date and -10°(F) on Christmas day with a reading of -30°(F) recorded at Chaffee in southern Erie County. The average temperature for the month was 25.3°(F), a departure of -2.6° from the norm. Precipitation measured 2.65 inches, 0.35 inches below normal. Snowfall at Buffalo measured 21.6 inches for the month with the heaviest accumulation, 4.2 inches, recorded during the storm on December 24th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Observers afield in December reported excellent gull watching on the Niagara River. Thompson's Hole, a bight in the Niagara River at Fort Erie, Ontario and long a favorite location for fishing for perch and Wall-eyed Pike among local anglers, was the scene of a large concentration of Bonaparte's Gulls in numbers estimated at between 500 and 2000 birds during the month. Their presence was attributed to an enormous concentration of Emerald Shiners and

other minnows in numbers reminiscent of the throngs of these fish in the river in November, 1959 which attracted so many gulls. Among the Bonaparte's', the occasional Little Gull was seen but not in the numbers field observations in recent years would lead us to expect. One exceptional find was an adult Black-headed Gull among the Bonaparte's Gulls in the Niagara River at the foot of Austin Street in Buffalo. It was first observed on December 11th at that location and later seen by Bob Andrie and his gull study group from the Museum of Science and by Art Schaffner in the Black Rock ship canal nearby. Both Glaucous and Iceland Gulls were present in the gorge at Niagara Falls and at the Sir Adam Beck Power Intake near Queenston all month. On December 14th, an immature Black-legged Kittiwake and two Glaucous Gulls were reported among a flock of 2000 Bonaparte's Gulls in Dunkirk Harbor.

Both Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins were seen among the several species of winter finches visiting feeders in all parts of the study area in December. A flock of 150 Pine Siskins was reported from Niagara-on-the-Lake in Ontario on December 7th. American Robins continue to winter on the Niagara Frontier in ever increasing numbers, a phenomenon that cannot be explained by the increasing popularity of bird feeders and suitable plant cover near human habitations as the flocks of these birds seem to sustain themselves on berries and other fruits in abandoned orchards and brushy swales. John Morse reports that 861 robins were counted during the Christmas Bird Count in the Oak Orchard area on December 30th. A flock of thirteen Lapland Longspurs was also seen on that census.

Harold Axtell writes that he believes that the 2000 Oldsquaws he counted at Niagara-on-the-Lake on December 27th may be the largest number ever recorded on the Niagara River so early in the winter. The count did not include several smaller flocks of another one to two hundred birds up the river near Queenston.

Other interesting birds reported during December include a Pine Warbler which Kenneth Brandes observed at his suet feeder several times between December 19th and 22nd. Snowy Owls were seen on the Buffalo waterfront, in the Town of Tonawanda, on Grand Island and at Niagara Falls during December. Birds seen on the Society's annual Christmas Count include two Yellow-rumped Warblers, one Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, the adult male Barrow's Goldeneye at Niagara Falls, (first reported last month), one Dunlin and 129 Great Black-backed Gulls.

QL
671
P96
v.47-49
1981-83

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year

F - Indicates first record for the migration

L - Indicates last record for the migration

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> Dec.	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Common Loon	17	1	Navy Island	Andrie et al
Horned Grebe	14	3	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Pied-billed Grebe	12	1	Belfast	Burtons, Jordan
Gr. Blue Heron	6, 22	1, 1	Belmont	Burtons
	7	1	Darien Center	Harper
	14	1	Black Creek, Ont.	Schaffner et al
	28	1	Orchard Park	Saville
Whistling Swan	24	9	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Canada Goose	3-26	42-212	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	7	750	Langford	McKales
Gadwall	14	19	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Pintail	14	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Greater Scaup	14	1500	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Lesser Scaup	14	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner et al
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	1-31	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Axtell
	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Old Squaw	27	2000	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell
White-w. Scoter	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Hooded Merganser	14	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1-30	1	Belmont	Burtons
	15, 17, 26	1, 1, 1	Wales	Rosche
Cooper's Hawk	1-17	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-30	1	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	6, 25	1, 1	Darien Center	Harper
	13, 14	1, 1	Jamestown	Beal
	14-28	1	Middleport	Krogs
	17	1	Burgeson Sanctuary	Beal
	20	1	Spring Brook	Danner

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Rough-leg. Hawk	19	1	Jamestown	Beal
	25, 28	1, 1	Langford	McKales
	28	1	Alfred	Brooks
Marsh Hawk	4	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	12	1	Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
	13	3	Clarence	McKales
	30	1	Millville	Krogs
Killdeer	13	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Glaucous Gull	13	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	14	4	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
*Black-headed Gull	13	1	Black Rock Canal, Bflo.	Andrle et al
	14	1	Black Rock Canal, Bflo.	Schaffner et al
Bonaparte's Gull	14	1000	Buffalo	Schaffner et al
	14	1500	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner et al
	14	4000	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Little Gull	14	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Snowy Owl	7F	1	Buffalo	Andrle et al
	14	1	Grand Island	McKales
Long-eared Owl	21	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Short-eared Owl	13	1	Clarence	McKales
Belted Kingfisher	1-10	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	2	1	Elma	Forsberg
	6	2	Town of Amity	Burtons
Common Flicker	1	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	9	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	13, 28	1, 1	Elma	Forsberg
	13	1	Buffalo	Schaffner et al
	27	1	Queenston, Ont.	Axtell
Red-headed Wdpkr.	29	1	Angola (f)	Axtell, Stevensons
Horned Lark	25	75	Castile	Barbers
	28	100	Strykersville	Barbers
Common Crow	10	150	Alfred	Brooks
Tufted Titmouse	1-31	2	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	2-15	1	Elma	Forsberg
	2	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
Red-br. Nuthatch	1-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-31	3	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-31	2	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	1-31	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	2-31	1-3	Lewiston	Klabundes
	5, 21	1, 1	Jamestown	Beal
	11	3	Alfred	Brooks
	14	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
	15, 18	1, 1	Wales	Rosche

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Carolina Wren	4-31	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
Mockingbird	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Gray Catbird	14	1	Adam Beck Hydro, Ont.	Schaffner et al
American Robin	1	1	City of Tonawanda	Schaffner et al
	1-31	1-30	Orchard Park	Saville
	6, 23	5, 5	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	13	1	Clarence	McKales
	19	1	Darien Center	Harper
	24, 25, 31	1, 3, 1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	27	20	Queenston, Ont.	Axtell
	28	1	Wales	Rosche
	28	1	Oakland Rural Cem.	Klabundes
	30	55	Shelby	Krogs, Morien
Cedar Waxwing	1-31	1-135	Orchard Park	Saville
	8-29	17-59	Amity	Pitzrick
	15, 28	40, 150	Wales	Rosche
	21	47	Fluvanna	Beal
Northern Shrike	81	1	Castile	Barbers
	24	1	Darien Center	Harper
Pine Warbler	19-22	1	Hamburg (f)	Brandes
Eastern Meadowlark	13	4	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Red-w. Blackbird	6	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	27	10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Foster
Common Grackle	6-30	1-2	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	19-21	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Brown-h. Cowbird	1	5	Holland (f)	Becker
	1, 4, 19, 25	1, 3, 2, 2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	1-31	1-11	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	4-26	1-7	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	14	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	21	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	25	12	Kenmore (f)	Thills
Evening Grosbeak	1	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	1-31	10-25	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	4-51	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	1-31	4-30	Alfred	Brooks
	1-30	40	Holland (f)	Becker
	15, 29	40, 70	Wales (f)	Rosche
	22	8	Jamestown (f)	Beal

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
House Finch	1-31	8-15	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	1-4	Depew (f)	Barbers
	1-31	1-6	Jamestown (f)	Beal
	1-31	20-35	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	2-31	1-12	Lewiston	Klabundes
	3-25	1-5	Alfred	Brooks
	8	2	Holland (f)	Becker
	30	3	Medina	Krogs
	2	4	Orchard Park	Saville
	10	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
Common Redpoll	13	6	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	29	3	Alfred	Brooks
	11	3	Orchard Park	Saville
	11, 14	1, 3	Eggertsville	McKales
Pine Siskin	18-31	2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	28-31	3-17	Lewiston	Klabundes
	29	2	Wales (f)	Rosche
	9	1	Elma	Forsberg
	15-31	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
Rufous-s. Towhee	25-31	1	Spring Brooks (f)	Danner
	27	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	1	1	Jamestown (f)	Beal
Field Sparrow	1	1	Jamestown (f)	Beal
White-cr. Sparrow	1-31	1	Belmont	Burtons
White-Thr. Sparrow	1-31	65	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-31	1-7	Amity	Pitzrick
	1-31	15	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1-31	5-8	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	1-31	6	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-31	1-4	Jamestown (f)	Beal
	1-31	6-12	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	3	3	Wales (f)	Rosche
	5, 12-31	2, 1-3	Lewiston	Klabundes
	6-31	2-6	Middleport	Krogs
	10-31	1-2	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Swamp Sparrow	20, 21	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Song Sparrow	1-31	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1-31	1-4	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-31	3	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	3-31	1-2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Dtte</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Snow Bunting (con't.	13	1	Holland (f)	Becker
	15	1	Elma	Forsberg
	15	1	Jamestown (f)	Beal
	18	2	Wales (f)	Rosche
	20-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Snow Bunting	27	21	Orchard Park	Saville
	28	1	Strykersville	Barbers
	30	320	Medina	Krogs
Species, subspecies & Hybrids previously recorded this year.....				262
Species, subspecies & Hybrids recorded this issue.....				1
Total for year.....				263

Noteworthy Records - Addenda

<u>1979</u>				
Brant	Dec. 27	4	Rock Point Prov. Park, Ont.	Duncan
Snow Goose	<u>Dec. 8, 27</u>	1	Rock Point Prov. Park, Ont.	Duncan
<u>1980</u>				
Common Snipe	Feb. 5, 25	4	Williamsville	Yoerg
Common Snipe	Mar. 4	4	Williamsville	Yoerg
Buff-br. Sandpiper	Aug. 29	1	St. David's, Ont.	Burch, Schaffer et al
Solitary Vireo	<u>Nov. 16</u>	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.	Conklin
<u>Black-thr. Gray Warbler</u>	<u>Nov. 16</u>	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont.	Conklin

Errata

In the June 1980 issue containing the report of the May Bird Count, the following three species were omitted:

Brant	1	(8)
Hooded Merganser	1	(18)
White-r. Sandpiper	1	(1)

This adds 3 species and 3 individuals changing Count totals to 193 species and 53,769 individuals.

Organizational Activities

Report of the 52nd B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count

compiled by Dr. Kenneth S. Balmas

An excellent Christmas Count resulted from the hard work of 44 participants in the Buffalo Circle. Seventy-nine species, plus one race (Kumlien's Gull), represent the fifth highest total in the history of the Count, surpassed only in 1963 (86), 1969 (90), 1976 (81), 1979 (82), and equalled in 1975 and 1978. The 111,236 individuals reported in the 16 territories is also the fifth highest number recorded, exceeded only in 1967 (140,532), 1969 (120,427), 1978 (147,655), and 1979 (155,582).

A check of changes in the number of individuals reported since the Count began in 1929 (see table below) reflect in large part the number of starlings counted -- first their increase during the early years and then the highest counts coinciding with the largest numbers recorded, mainly from the roosts under the three bridge systems present in the Count area.

<u>Years</u>	<u>Averages</u>	
	<u>Number of Species</u>	<u>Number of Individuals</u>
1929-1949	54	14,627
1950-1980	74	71,014
<hr/>		
1960-1969	73	80,534
1970-1980	79	85,801

The differences in the number of species and number of individuals did not vary significantly with differences in the number of observers -- even when the number of participants would be in the twenties one year and in the forties the next. Actual statistical tests were run on the data to determine this. The significant difference in the number of individuals reported in the years prior to 1950 compared with that of the later counts can be largely attributed to an increase in Starlings. The big difference in the number of species is harder to explain, but the greater attention paid to gulls and the increase in summer residents and migrants wintering over appear to be part of the explanation.

With regard to the 1980 Count, the Dunlin was the third ever reported, the Barrow's Goldeneye the fourth ever, and the Whistling Swan was recorded for the fifth time. The White-crowned Sparrow was reported for the first time since 1975, and the 117 Robins, the highest ever, were found in 14 of the 16 territories -- 40 of them in Territory M. The House Finch was found on Cayuga Island in Territory K for the first time during a Buffalo Count.

Eight species were recorded as representing an all time high: Great Blue Heron (28), Whistling Swan (10), Redhead (537), American Goldfinch (209) Blue Jay (409), American Robin (117), Pine Siskin (87), and the Dark-eyed Junco (326). The 110 Ring-necked Pheasants represent the highest number counted since 1961 when 130 were reported.

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Organizational Activities" (con't.)

Last year (the 1979 Count) the Short-eared Owl was mentioned as "the most unusual 'miss'" -- it was "missing" again this year. Not counting these last two years it had been reported every year since 1964. Meadowlarks were not reported, one of the few summer residents that frequently winters in our area but was not among the many in that category reported this time. Curiously, House Sparrows were totally "missing" only in Territory K.

Other interesting facts and figures of the 52nd Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below. With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories.

Date: December 21, 1980.

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was mostly clear throughout the Count. Count temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 12 degrees Fahrenheit to an afternoon high of 23 degrees Fahrenheit, and the winds were from the west at 5-20 miles per hour. The Niagara River was mostly free of ice, but many smaller bodies of water, especially ponds and inlets, were ice-covered. The snow cover ranged from zero to one inch with heavier collections in some places varying with topography and ground cover (plants).

Coverage: Forty-four observers in 18 parties and 2 at feeders, made observations from 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Party-hours were 142.5 (55.5 on foot and 87 by car), plus 3 hours at feeders and 19.5 owling. Party-miles were 781 (70 on foot and 711 by car).

Territories and Observers (leaders underlined):

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andriele, Marcy Foster. 49 species; 13,030 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Richard Byron, James Gregory, Arthur Partridge, Bobby E. Tomasi. 31 species; 2293 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Audrey Horbett, Arthur Schaffner. 21 species; 997 individuals.
- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Denys Gardiner. 21 species; 16,221 individuals.

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Organizational Activities" (con't.)

- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Gary Novosal, Rovert Sommerville. 39 species; 4074 individuals.
- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Main Street south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands, and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Dave Cooper, Walt and Harriette Klabunde. 33 speices; 48,921 invidduals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Road southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling, Wavel and Maxine Barber. 30 species; 1318 individuals.
- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Doug Happ, Joe Ghosen. 31 species; 1609 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Drive east and south to area bounday, west to Niagara River. Brian and Rose Anne Lewandowski, Ken Balmas, Tom Klonowski. 29 species; 3743 individuals.
- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Road, north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. John and Margaret Wright, Ed Fessler. 24 species; 3743 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Lincoln Nutting, Art and Olga Rosche.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Road to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy. 39 species; 1656 individuals.
- N. Grand Island: White haven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert and Kyle Brock. 28 species; 1220 individuals
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road, and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Peggy Daniels, Dave Freeland. 36 species, 1610 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Road south to Spaulding Road from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Frances Rew, Robert and Pauline Schwartz, Alice Ulrich. 33 species; 3485 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Road to the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Dick Chrstenson. 39 species; 9712 individuals.

Species Account:

Horned Grebe	2	(A)	
Great Blue Heron	28		Record; previous high 20 (1956)
Whistling Swan	10	(Q)	Record; previous high 5 (1978)
Canada Goose	117	(Q)	
Mallard	674		
Black Duck	205		
Gadwall	49	(A,B,Q)	
Pintail	47	(A,F)	
Green-winged Teal	2	(F)	
American Widgeon	101		
Redhead	537		Record; previous high 255 (1956)
Canvasback	4412		
Greater Scaup	4326		
Lesser Scaup	2	(A,Q)	
Common Goldeneye	3804		
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	1	(A)	Fourth time ever.
Bufflehead	956		
Oldsquaw	2	(E)	
Hooded Merganser	8	(A,H,Q)	
Common Merganser	4174		
Red-breasted Merganser	279	(E,J,O)	
Cooper's Hawk	1	(O)	
Red-tailed Hawk	61		
Rough-legged Hawk	2	(B,N)	
American Kestrel	24		
Ring-necked Pheasant	110		Highest since 1961 (130)
American Coot	1	(H)	
<u>Dunlin</u>	1	(A)	Third time ever.
Glaucous Gull	11	(A,M,)	
Iceland Gull	3	(A,M)	
Kumlien's Gull	1	(A)	
Great Black-backed Gull	239		
Herring Gull	10,003		
Ring-billed Gull	2830		
Bonaparte's Gull	2728		
Rock Dove	1124		
Mourning Dove	190		
Screech Owl	8		
Great Horned Owl	4	(F,M,Q)	
Snowy Owl	2	(M,O)	
Long-eared Owl	1	(E)	
Belted Kingfisher	4		
Common Flicker	19		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	(A)	First time since 1973.
Hairy Woodpecker	5		Lowest since 1959 (3).
Downy Woodpecker	63		
Blue Jay	409		Record; previous high 387 (1979)

Volume 47, Number 1 - "Species Account" (con't.)

Common Crow	185		Record; previous high 387 (1979)
Black-capped Chickadee	460		Low since 1977 (133)
Tufted Titmouse	2	(G)	
White-breasted Nuthatch	36		Highest since 1957 (13)
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11		
Brown Creeper	8		
Mockingbird	2	(E,P)	
Gray Catbird	1	(K)	
Brown Thrasher	1	(E)	
American Robin	117		Record; previous high 73 (1978)
Hermit Thrush	3	(E,M,O)	Equals previous high of 3 (1971)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	17		
Cedar Waxwing	69,243		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	4	(B,K,M)	
House Sparrow	1801		
Red-winged Blackbird	7	(C)	
Common Grackle	1	(G)	
Brown-headed Cowbird	69	(E,O,P)	
Cardinal	115		
Purple Finch	2	(G)	
House Finch	8	(E,F)	
Common Redpoll	25		
Pine Siskin	87	(Q)	Record; previous high 22 (1955)
American Goldfinch	209		Record; previous high 135 (1976)
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	(K)	
Dark-eyed Junco	326		Record; previous high 297 (1971)
Tree Sparrow	634		
White-crowned Sparrow	3	(A,C)	First time since 1975
White-throated Sparrow	201		
Swamp Sparrow	2	(E,O)	
Song Sparrow	25		
Snow Bunting	5	(A)	
Totals:	111,236	individuals	(Fourth highest ever)
	80	species	(Fifth highest ever)

The compiler thanks all who contributed to the Count's fine success.

9330 Main Street, Clarence, N.Y. 14031

Niagara Loop Bird Trip -- December 14

A successful day for the 12 participants was assured when the first bird seen was a Black-headed Gull. This was in the Black Rock Canal at the foot of Austin Street where it had been seen for over a week. It was watched in the water and on wing for 15 minutes so its features could be compared with the nearby Bonaparte's Gulls.

Nothing more unusual than a Great Blue Heron was seen along the Canadian shore and by mid-morning the weather had worsened with 25 mph wind, frequent snow

white-outs and a drop in temperature from 30° down to 14°. However, during a lull, Art Schaffner was able to find us a Thayer's Gull just below the Canadian Falls, alternately flying and sitting on the power plant roof. And on the rocks above the falls there were Glaucous Gulls in Four plumages.

Further downriver, a stop at the Ontario Horticultural School accounted for most of the passerines found - Catbird, Mockingbird, White-th. sparrow, and others. A caged Wood duck was not counted.

In the afternoon a rerun up the Canadian side proved fruitful. The Barrow's Goldeneye and a Hooded Merganser now were on the intake pool above the falls, and at Thompson's Hole in Ft. Erie a Little Gull was flying back and forth among the Bonaparte's. This was seen at 50-foot range and in a rare burst of sunlight, truly a fine view of an unusual gull. The day, which had been a good test of insulated jackets and felt-lined boots, netted 44 species, including 18 waterfowl and 7 gull species.

Pauline Schwartz and Bill Burch

COLOR-MARKED ATLANTIC BRANT

Wildlife biologists with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have been banding and color-marking brant on their Long Island wintering ground. In cooperation with Canadian scientists, they are studying the migration routes to their Arctic breeding grounds. Approximately one-thousand brant have been sprayed this year. The dyed feathers will be replaced during this summer's post-nuptial molt.

Any persons observing color-marked brant should note the following:

- Date, time and place
- color and part of body dyed
- number in flock
- age-class (if known) of individual
- age-class composition of flock (if known)

Information should be sent to:

Harold W. Knoch
Regional Wildlife Manager
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Building 40, SUNY Campus
Stony Brook, NY 11794

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

- July 26 - Sunday field trip to the Canadian shore of Lake Erie for Early Shore birds. Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8 a.m. or the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge at 8:15. Leader: Linc Nutting 773-7215
- August 16 - Sunday - Meet at Vermont and Busti at 7 a.m. or the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge at 7:15 for migrating shore birds. Leaders: Bill and Alice McKale 834-0784.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, N.Y. 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 95 Slate Creek Dr. Cheektowaga, NY. 14227

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

27
2
1



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

SEP 08 1981

VOLUME 47

FEBRUARY 1981

NUMBER 2

THE MONTH

January was cold and snowy although the total precipitation was not heavy enough to disrupt the pattern of human activity and there were no severe storms. The average temperature for the month was 19.9°F , a departure of -4.4° from the norm. Snowfall measured 14.4 inches for the month, the heaviest fall of six inches in the Buffalo area occurring overnight on January 6th-7th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

It would be difficult to imagine a more satisfying beginning for a bird-watcher's year than the exciting find made by Robert Andrle and his party in the ice choked gorge at Niagara Falls, Ontario on January 1st. In the course of his annual New Year's Day trip along the Canadian side of the Niagara River to inaugurate the year's list, Andrle was approached at the Sir Adam Beck Power Station overlook by a Canadian bird-watcher who described a small white gull he had just seen sitting on the ice near a lead of open water in the gorge below the Canadian Falls and which he believed to be an Ivory Gull. Although the Buffalo birders had scanned the gorge a short time before without seeing anything remarkable, they hurried back to the location described by their informant and, after a few moments of inspection of the vast ice bridge with binoculars, Andrle saw an immature Ivory Gull sitting on the ice near open water at the Maid of the Mist boat dock. It is only the third verified sighting of this hitherto rare Arctic larid in our study area and both previous records were also from Niagara Falls, Ontario. In spite of careful scrutinizing of the icefield in the gorge by a host of observers on January 2nd and subsequent days, no trace of the bird could be found. Ironically, an immature Ivory Gull, probably the same bird, was reported by two residents of Cleveland, Ohio who were visiting Niagara Falls on December 22nd but unfortunately the information was not passed along to the local gull watching fraternity at that time. On January 21st, another immature Ivory Gull was reported at the mouth

of the Genesee River at Rochester.

Other interesting records for January include a Red-necked Grebe grounded by inclement weather in the Town of Eden on January 4th which was recovered and restored to health at the Buffalo Museum of Science before being returned to the wild by staff members. Overshadowed by the excitement attendant to the discovery of the Ivory Gull was a record of a Double-crested Cormorant on the Niagara River at Fort Erie on January 1st. The last free-flying flocks of Canada Geese left the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by the second week of January but up to 130 birds of this species continued to winter on the Niagara River in the vicinity of the marshes at Fort Erie throughout the month. A smaller flock remained in Dunkirk Harbor most of the month. The Barrow's Goldeneye, first reported in these pages in November, continued to frequent the power pool near Dufferin Island at Niagara Falls, Ontario all month.

The white-phase Gyrfalcon, an escaped bird with jesses dangling from its tarsi and which was also first mentioned in this newsletter in November, was seen in several locations in January, including Beaver Island State Park on the 3rd and at the Erie Basin Marina and near the Peace Bridge in Buffalo later in the month. It was seen on several occasions in the vicinity of the Huron Portland cement plant at Ohio and Childs streets in Buffalo where the large flocks of feral Rock Doves roosting near the grain elevators in the neighborhood apparently provided an abundant and easily obtainable food supply. Elizabeth Brooks and Reed Van Kaynor, a biology student at Alfred University, heard the hoarse, deep croak of two ravens flying over the trees in the state reforestation area west of Alfred on January 21st. Although neither observer was able to get a glimpse of the birds, they are both familiar with the vocalizations of this species and the site is in the same area where well documented sightings of ravens have been reported in the last few years.

The Varied Thrush reported by Gail Seamans was described as 'a male in the most beautiful plumage'. It was seen at a feeder in the Town of Alexander in Genesee County most of the month. A Hermit Thrush was seen on the grounds of the Ontario Horticulture School at Niagara Falls on January 4th. Alice McKale and Ed Fessler had excellent looks at a Bohemian Waxwing in a flock of Cedar Waxwings in Krull Park at Olcott in Niagara County on January 17th. This is the only record for our area for the month although up to 1400 Bohemian Waxwings in one flock were reported further north in Ontario in January! The large numbers of American Robins wintering on the Niagara Frontier continued to be a topic of conversation among bird-watchers during the month.

A Boreal Chickadee was reported from a feeder on Chestnut Ridge Road in the Town of Orchard Park and a second from a feeder on the East River Road on Grand Island. A Brown Thrasher and four Carolina Wrens were also seen at the East River Road location. In what she describes as 'a careful count', Alice McKale tallied 500 male Brown-headed Cowbirds in a

flock in the Town of Tonawanda on January 31st. A male European Goldfinch was a regular visitor to a thistle feeder at 15 Crown Street in Jamestown where it was seen feeding in the company of American Goldfinches for most of the month. Harold Axtell reported a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak at his feeder at Rose Hill Road in Fort Erie on January 24th through the end of the month.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
- F - Indicates first record for the migration
- L - Indicates last record for the migration
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	Jan.			
Common Loon	25	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	25	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Pied-billed Grebe	1	1	Niagara Falls	McKales
	3	1	Niagara Falls	Seamans et al
	25	4	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Double-cr. Cormorant	1	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
Great Blue Heron	7	2	Amity	Pitzrick
	12	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	19	1	Belmont	Burtens
Canada Goose	1	33	Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
	1	250	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	2,17	62,130	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	3	33	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	3	17	Bertie Twp., Ont.	Schaffner
	3	19	Dunkirk Harbor	Barbers
	7	50	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	22,23	70,75	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	27	1	Jamestown	Elderkin
	31	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	3	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
<u>Lesser Scaup</u>	2	1	Queenston, Ont.	McKales
	3	8	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	3	1	Navy Island	Schaffner

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Harlequin Duck	1	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Axtell et al
	10	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Duncan
White-w. Scoter	24	5	Shadigee	Andrle et al
Hooded Merganser	3	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	1	Buffalo	Rew
	2-31	1	Wales	Rosches
	5	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	5	1	Belmont	Burtons
	9	1	Jamestown	Beal
	25	1	Dunkrik	Rew
	25	1	Town of Stafford	Seamans
	27	1	Hamburg	Zebehazy
	29	1	Orchard Park	Zebehazy
Cooper's Hawk	1	1	Clarence	McKales
	1	1	Dunkirk	Thills
	1-29	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	1-31	1	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	2	1	Alfred	Brooks
	3-23	1	Middleport	Krogs
	5,23	1,1	Wales	Rosches
	8,19	1,1	Darien Center	Harper
	9	1	Holland	Becker
	10-26	1-4	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	14	1	Jamestown	Beal
	16	1	Scio	Pitzrick
Rough-leg. Hawk	1,10,16	1,1,1	Amity	Pitzrick
	3	3	Town of Ward	Pitzricks
	4	1	Orchard Park	Zebehazy
	4	1	Town of Ward	Burtons
	6,12,13	1,1,1	Belvidere	Pitzricks
	7,28	1,1	Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
	6	1	Olean	Pitzricks
	25	1	Town of Stafford	Seamans
Marsh Hawk	1	1	Grand Island	McKales
	1	2	Clarence	McKales
	6	1	Iroquis NWR	Olsen
	9,10,24	1,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	18,25	1,1	Cambria	McKales
	28	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Ruffed Grouse	1	5	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	20	1	Town of Darien	Seamans
American Coot	25	7	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Purple Sandpiper	10	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Duncan
Glaucous Gull	2	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
	3	4	Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
	25	1	Buffalo Harbor	McKales

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Iceland Gull	3	2	Sir Adam Beck Hydro.	Andrle et al
Lesser Black-b. Gull	1	1	Sir Adam Beck Hydro.	Andrle, Axtell et al
Ivory Gull	1	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Axtell et al
Short-eared Owl	11	3	Town of Sheldon	Andrle, et al
	16	3	Town of Sheldon	Rosches
	1	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Seamans
	3	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	3-26	1	Scio	Pitzrick
	11	1	Beaver Meadow N.C.	Andrle et al
	13	1	Town of Amity	Burtons
	29	1	Limestone	Van Scoys
Common Flicker	2	1	Grand Island	McKales
	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	11	2	Newstead	McKales
	13, 18	2, 1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	17	1	Cheektowaga	Zebehazy
	18	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Zebehazy
	18	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	22, 26	1, 1	Elma	Forsberg
	25	1	Pendleton	McKales
	25	1	Lewiston	McKales
	29	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	30	1	Town of Amity	Burtons
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	1	1	Iroquois NWR (f)	Olsen
	1-31	2	East Pembroke (f)	Seamans
	11	3	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	17	1	Wilson	McKales
	23-31	1	Wales (f)	Rosches
Red-Headed Wdpkr.	1	2	Town of Porter	Klabundes
	18	1	Town of Porter	McKales
	24	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Horned Lark	17	29	Pendleton	McKales
(E.a. alpestris)	25	20	Castile	Barbers
Tufted Titmouse	1-31	1-2	Limestone	Van Scoys
	1-3	2	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	10	2	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Duncan
	13-31	2	Orchard Park (f)	Zebehazy
	17	1	Wilson	McKales
Carolina Wren	1-22	1	Elma (f)	Danner
			(found dead in garage on 22nd.)	
	17	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	18	1	Hamburg	Andrle et al
Mockingbird	1	1	Middleport	Krogs, Morions
	1	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	10	1	Bond Lake	Barbers
	14	1	Cheektowaga	Zebehazy
	15	4	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Thill, Reckhow
	18, 25	1, 1	Ransomville	McKales

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Brown Thrasher	9-16	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	24-25	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
American Robin	1, 9	15, 31	Depew	Barbers
	1	30	Jos. Davis St. Pk.	Klabundes
	1	45	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	1	75	Queenston, Ont.	McKales
	1-31	4-6	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-31	6	Lewiston	Klabundes
	1-31	1-30	Orchard Park	Saville
	3	17	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
	3	200	Wanakah	Barbers
	3	4	Sir Adam Beck Hydro	Schaffner
	3	1	Grand Island	Schaffner
	8	30	Oak Orchard WMA	Seamans
	8, 13	1, 1	Alfred	Brooks
	9	1	South Cayuga, Twp. Ont.	Duncan
	9, 11	3, 5	Jamestown	Elderkin
	10	430	Iroquois NWR	Krogs
	10	2	Scio	Pitzrick
	14	4	Town of Batavia	Seamans
	15, 18	2, 4	Jamestown	Beal
	20	150	Town of Alabama	Rosches
	20	23	Jamestown	Elderkin
	20-31	1-20	Elma	Forsberg
	25	65	Dunkirk to Brockton	Rew
	25	12	Town of Somerset	Thills
	25	60	Town of Yates	Thills
	26	800	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	26, 27, 28	1, 1, 3	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	28	50	Elma	Danner
	28, 29	15, 25	Orchard Park	Zebehazy
	29	12	Eggertsville	Hulls
	29, 30	20	Jamestown	Beal
	31	15	Olcott	Schaffner
	31	2	West Barre	Schaffner
	31	50	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
Hermit Thrush	4	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
	10	1	Evangola	Andrle, Foster
Eastern Bluebird	24, 25	5	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Golden-cr. Kinglet	3, 12	3, 2	Amity	Pitzrick
	6-31	1-2	Alfred	Brooks
	30	2	Olcott	Rew et al
Cedar Waxwing	1-31	30-115	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	8	160	Oak Orchard WMA	Seamans
	11	75	Shelby	McKales
	12	75	Lakewood	Elderkin
	16	60	Wales	Rosches
	(maximum counts for the month)			
Bohemian Waxwing	17	1	Olcott	McKale, Fessler

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Northern Shrike	1	1	Clarence	McKales
	3	1	Sturgeon Point	Barbers
Eastern Meadowlark	24	1	Eden	Rew
	10	1	Sturgeon Point	Andrle, Foster
	25	1	Town of Yates	Thills
Red-w. Blackbird	2-31	1-10	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	7	20	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	9	1	East Pembroke	Seamans
	10	1	Middleport (f)	Krogs
	14-31	1	Limestone	Van Scoys
Common Grackle	1-31	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	1	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	1	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
	8-17	1-2	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
Brown-h. Cowbird	1-31	1-4	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	6	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	16	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	27	30	Tonawanda	McKales
	27	4	Holland	Becker
	27, 31	30, 500	Tonawanda	McKales
Cardinal	1-31	55	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Rose-br. Grosbeak	24-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Evening Grosbeak	1-31	30	Holland	Becker
	1-31	25	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1-31	20-40	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	40-65	Limestone	Van Scoys
	1-31	15-69	Amity (f)	Pitzrick
	1, 18	100, 40	Wales (f)	Rosche
	7, 13	8, 8	Jamestown	Beal
	29	15-20	Orchard Park (f)	Zebehazy
Purple Finch	1-31	2-4	Belmont	Burtons
	3	2	Holland	Becker
	5, 20	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	6	2	Jamestown	Beal
House Finch	1-31	30-70	Eggertsville	McKales
	1-31	12-15	Eggertsville	Hulls
	1-31	1-6	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	1-31	8-15	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	2	Depew (f)	Barbers
	1-31	15	Lewiston	Klabundes
	3, 19, 27	1, 1, 1	Limestone	Van Scoys
	6	3	Jamestown	Beal
	14-26	7-45	Scio (f)	Pitzrick
Pine Grosbeak	19, 21	1, 14	Alfred	Brooks
European Goldfinch	6, 8, 16, 23	1	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin et al

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Common Redpoll	5-30	5-14	Depew (f)	Barbers
	7-17	1-4	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	9	60	South Cayuga, Ont.	Duncan
	15-31	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	17	3	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
	18, 19	2, 2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	23, 24	3, 3,	Eggertsville	Hulls
	28-31	1	Eggertsville	Hulls
	1-31	2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
Pine Siskin	1-31	1-44	Lewiston	Klabundes
	10	8	Wales (f)	Rosche
	10	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	10	25	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Duncan
	22, 23	1, 1	Elma	Forsberg
	24-31	2-7	Orchard Park (f)	Zebehazy
	24	1	Eggertsville	Hulls
Red Crossbill	25	1	Pendleton	McKales
	29	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
White-w. Crossbill	1-31	18-70	Middleport (f)	Krogs
American Goldfinch	1-31	100	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	(maximum counts for the month)			
Rufous-s. Towhee	1-28	1	Elma (f)	Danner
	23	1	Elma	Forsberg
White-cr. Sparrow	1-31	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	3, 14	2, 2	Jamestown	Elderkin
	12	1	Spring Brook	Danner
White-thr. Sparrow	1-31	65	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-31	13-15	Orchard Park (f)	Zebehazy
	1-31	4-8	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	1-31	5	Jamestown	Beal
	1-31	15	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1-31	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	1-2	Limestone	Van Scoys
	1-31	6	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-31	2	Amity (f)	Pitzricks
	1-31	1-4	Lewiston	Klabundes
	2	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	3	4	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
	3	5	Sturgeon Point	Barbers
	3	10	Burgeson Sanctuary	Elderkin
	4	1	Town of Alexander	Seamans
	10	11	Bond Lake	Barbers
	11	3	Iroquois NWR (f)	McKales
	14, 16, 19	7, 1, 2	Scio	Pitzrick
	18	3	Wales (f)	Rosches
Swamp Sparrow	4	1	Town of Alexander	Seamans
	5	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	11	1	Town of Newstead	McKales

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Song Sparrow	1-31	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-31	1-2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	1-31	2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1-31	2-4	Spring Brook	Danner
	1	1	Bertie Twp., Ont.	McKales
	1-5	1-2	Middleport (f)	Krogs
	1-31	1-2	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	2	2	Wales (f)	Rosche
	4	1	Orchard Park(f)	Zebehazy
	7,23	3,1	Amity	Pitzrick
	9	1	Iroquois NWR	Merse
	3	5	Amity	Pitzrick
	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Lapland Longspur	7	1	Town of Alabama	Seamans
	24	4	Town of Yates	Andrle et al
	3,7	98,300	Amity	Pitzrick
Snow Bunting	10,18	100,50	Town of Amity	Burtons
	17	90	Buffalo	Andrle et al
	18,25	250,200	Wilson	McKales
	18	150	Cambria	McKales
	25	100	Ransomville	McKales
	14	200	Jamestown	Elderkin

(maximum counts for the month)

Other species reported in January: Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Pintail, American Wigeon, Redhead, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Oldsquaw, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Ring-necked Pheasant, Turkey, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Horned Lark (E.a. praticola), Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Starling, House Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Tree Sparrow.

Species, sub-species and hybrids records this month.....101

Following is the result of the Twenty Seventh Annual Waterfowl Count for region #1 of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. The Kingbird will publish the statewide count at a later date.

Dates included January 10 through January 18, 1981 with January 11 as the target date.

Volume 47, Number 2 -"Waterfowl Count" (con't.)

Canada Goose	-	78	(F)	-	Low
Mallard	-	3479	-	-	Very High
Black Duck	-	351	-	-	Low
Gadwall	-	18	(F)	-	Average
Pintail	-	15	-	-	Average
Wood Duck	-	3	-	-	Low
Redhead	-	45	(P)	-	2nd Highest
Canvasback	-	843	-	-	2nd Lowest
Scaup, sp.	-	1200	(B)	-	Average
Scaup, Greater	-	760	-	-	Low
Scaup, Lesser	-	1	(F)	-	Very Low
Goldeneye, Common	-	2584	-	-	2nd Lowest
Goldeneye, Barrow's	-	1	(F)	-	5th Time Seen
Bufflehead	-	981	-	-	2nd Highest
Oldsquaw	-	1146	(C,D)	-	Average
Merganser, Hooded	-	6	-	-	Average
Merganser, Common	-	3824	-	-	Average
Merganser, Red-br.	-	32	-	-	Low
Total Species		18	-	-	Lowest Ever
Total Individuals		14034	-	-	Lowest Ever

The following people took part in the count:

A- Lake Ontario - Pt Breeze to Olcott	Robert Wagner
B- Lake Ontario - Ft Niagara to Olcott	Walter and Harriette Klabunde
C- Ft. Niagara to Gorge at Falls	Lincoln Nutting
D- Nia.-on-the-Lake to Gorge at Falls	Alan Reckhow and Joseph Thill
E- Bflo North Harbor to Goat Island	Carolyn Frank
F- Ft Erie to Canadian Falls	Harold Axtell and Douglas Happ
G- Grand Island	Harold D. Mitchell and Brian Lewandowski
H- Lake Erie-South Bflo Harbot to Silver Creek	Robert Andrie and Marcy Foster
J- Jamestown	Robert Sundell and David Gagne
K- Olean-Salamanca	Doris Burton
M- Batavia	Max and Jane Mason
N- Oak Orchard & Tona. GMA	John Morse and Dan Carrol
O- Iroquois NWR	" " " "
P- Williamsville Area	Marie Wendling
Q- Delaware Park, Forest Lawn, Zoo	Cynthia Millard

Lakes Erie and Chautauqua were completely frozen over. Lake Ontario, this year, was also completely frozen near shore, so very little was seen there.

None of the following species were seen; Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, American Wigeon and the three Scoters. This is unusual, but on the other hand, there were very high numbers of Mallards and comparatively high numbers of Buffleheads. Three Wood Ducks were seen and the Barrow's Goldeneye was also seen again. Everything else was either average or low.

Thanks very much to everyone who took part in the count.

Alan H. Reckhow
1570 Colvin Blvd.
Kenmore, NY. 14223

BIRDBANDING 1980

Donald F. Clark

Permit #9427, Farmersville Station, Cattaraugus County, New York State

This report summarizes the bird banding activities at our private refuge for the year 1980. The 46 acre refuge is located in Farmersville Township of Cattaraugus County in New York State. The exact location is latitude 42°2' and longitude 78°2'. On a road map, it is approximately one mile south of Farmersville Station, New York on Hicks Road. The post office address is Franklinville, New York 14737.

Banding was conducted on 227 days this year. This is just about average for the past seven years. This is the period of time we have lived permanently at the refuge. Nets were used on 97 days and traps on 222 days. No banding was done during June and July. Fall Netting was started on 17 August.

The weather in 1980 was normal for the year with 8 months averaging above normal in temperature and 4 months below normal. Temperatures ranged from a high of 93°F in July to a low of minus 12°F in March. There were 96 days of snow with 92" of snow falling. A normal year would have 76½" of snow. It rained on 171 days with 32" of rainfall. This compares to a norm of 40½". On 10 June, we had 2 minutes of snow pellets fall. The weather department identified it as "graupel" and noted it was the first time since 1871 that snow had fallen in June for this area.

The pinioned Canada Goose nested in the same spot as in 1979. She started laying 6 April and had 3 eggs in the clutch. Again, the gander had to be penned, as he protected the nest so well even the female couldn't get near it. The nest was fenced in and opened only at night to protect the goose from wild Canada Geese that flew in each morning. Only one gosling hatched on 11 May and was confined for the first two months with the female. The female and a wild gander could get in and out of the fencing but the gosling could not. The wild gander has remained at the refuge for the past four years. He took over the protective role when the pinioned gander was penned.

Volume 47, Number 2-"Birdbanding" (con't.)

An injured wild Canada Goose was released on the pond by Karen Geiger from Tiffit Farm a nature sanctuary near Buffalo, N.Y. This bird had been abused by visitors to the sanctuary so could not be kept there during the winter months. It has paired with the yearling Canada Goose from 1979 hatching. Both birds can fly but remain on the pond.

Educational Activities:

Field Trips: The following groups scheduled field trips at the refuge. Banding demonstrations were conducted for each group.

St. Bonaventure University	3 May
Cattaraugus Bird Club	24 May
Buffalo Audubon Society	14 June
Beaver Meadow Banding Class	17 August
Beaver Meadow Banding Class	18 November

Lectures and Slide Shows:

Brownie Troops at Rushford, NY.	10 March
Houghton Senior Citizens	16 October

Bird Counts:

We participated in the Buffalo Ornithological Society Bird Counts on 13 April, 18 May and 12 October. We checked feeders during the day and walked the two miles of trails on our refuge plus another two miles on the dirt road leading to our paper box. We checked bird life on our three ponds plus the new beaver ponds. We did not drive the usual route in Section #18.

The Christmas Bird Count was conducted on 20 December in the St. Bonaventure University circle near Allegany, NY.

Due to a heart infection that occurred in March, I was restricted in activities until July. Therefore, we did not do the mini-route Breeding Survey for Dr. Clarence Klingensmith in Allegany County.

We were able to participate in the Breeding Survey for the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. We covered by car only this year the "A" sections of blocks #2169 and #2170. These 10 kilometer blocks include our refuge and the immediate area to the south.

Jane and I continue to act as volunteer guides for school groups at the Beaver Meadow Audubon Center at Java, New York. This year we were not as active due to my physical condition.

Publications:

All sight and banding records are sent to Mrs. Vivian Pitzrick for the Region I report in the Kingbird. This is the quarterly publication of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs.

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Bird Counts" (con't.)

Feeder reports were sent monthly to Mr. Albert Witzig for inclusion in the Buffalo Audubon Society records.

During the year, I continued to compile the Region IV Atlantic Flyway Review and to help edit the other region reports. This is published in the North American Bird Bander edited by Mrs. Nadia Mutchler.

The 1979 report of Farmersville Station Bird Banding was published in Vol. #46 No. 3 March 1980 and in Vol. #46 No. 4 April 1980 issues of the Prothonotary. This is the monthly magazine of the Buffalo Ornithological Society edited by Michael A. Zebehazy.

The Ten Most Commonly Banded Birds:

	<u>1980</u>		<u>15 Year Total</u>
260	Dark-eyed Junco	4138	Tree Sparrow
242	Evening Grosbeak	2648	Dark-eyed Junco
225	American Goldfinch	2473	Evening Grosbeak
165	Purple Finch	1641	Song Sparrow
108	Black-capped Chickadee	1265	White-throated Sparrow
93	Tree Sparrow	1174	Yellow-rumped Warbler
71	White-throated Sparrow	907	Blue Jay
42	Song Sparrow	683	American Goldfinch
39	Gray Catbird	633	Gray Catbird
45	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1236	Black-capped Chickadee

BIRDBANDING 1980

Farmersville Station, N.Y.

Summary of 1980 Banding Totals by Species:

Wood Duck	1	Black-throated Green	3
Little Green Heron	1	Blackburnian Warbler	1
Solitary Sandpiper	1	Chestnut-sided Warbler	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Bay-breasted Warbler	2
Black-billed Cuckoo	2	Blackpoll Warbler	1
Belted Kingfisher	2	W. Palm Warbler	1
Northern Flicker	2	Pine Warbler	1
Hairy Woodpecker	2	Ovenbird	8
Downy Woodpecker	6	Northern Waterthrush	9
Eastern Phoebe	2	Mourning Warbler	1

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Birdbanding" (con't.)

Traill's Flycatcher	1	Common Yellowthroat	8
Least Flycatcher	8	Wilson's Warbler	2
Tree Swallow	1	Canada Warbler	2
Blue Jay	26	American Redstart	2
Black-capped Chickadee	108	Red-winged Blackbird	4
W.-br. Nuthatch	4	Northern Oriole	12
Brown Creeper	4	Rusty Blackbird	1
Cary Catbird	39	Common Grackle	7
Brown Thrasher	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	9
American Robin	22	Cardinal	8
Wood Thrush	1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	18
Hermit Thrush	7	Evening Grosbeak	242
Swainson's Thrush	23	Purple Finch	165
Gray-cheeked Thrush	3	Pine Siskin	1
Veery	8	American Goldfinch	225
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	Rufous-sided Towhee	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	Dark-eyed Junco	260
Solitary Vireo	1	Tree Sparrow	93
Red-eyed Vireo	7	Chipping Sparrow	11
Blue-winged Warbler	1	Field Sparrow	9
Tennessee Warbler	14	White-crowned Sparrow	1
Nashville Warbler	5	White-throated Sparrow	71
Yellow Warbler	13	Fox Sparrow	2
Magnolia Warbler	9	Lincon's Sparrow	1
Black-throated Blue W.	2	Swamp Sparrow	4
Yellow-rumped Warbler	45	Song Sparrow	42

1610 Total Birds Banded of 72 Species in 1980 at Farmersville Station, N.Y.

25,924 Total Birds Banded of 126 Species from 1966 through 1980.

Banding Recoveries in 1980:

Seven recoveries were received from the Banding Office in 1980.

American Goldfinch:

#1480-10572: Banded on 12-05-78 at the refuge as an U-F. It was trapped and released by Kathy Klimkiewicz at Larchdale Woods, Maryland on 02-04-79. This is approximately 296 miles south south east of the banding station.

Brown-headed Cowbird:

#77-125359: Banded on 04-06-74 at the refuge as an AHY-F. It was found dead by John Morey near Porter Corners, New York on 03-27-80. This is 240 miles east north east of the banding station. This bird was at least 7 years old.

Volume 47, Number 2- "Banding Recoveries" (con't.)

Evening Grosbeak:

#821-92512: Banded on 02-23-76 at the refuge as a SY-M. It was found dead by Mrs. Carlton Sawyer near Springvale, Maine on 03-30-80. This is about 387 miles east north east of the banding station.

American Goldfinch:

#1480-11493: Banded on 05-02-80 at the refuge as a SY-M. It was found dead by Frank Lohr of Franklinville, N.Y. on 05-04-80. This is 10 miles south west of the banding station.

American Goldfinch:

#1480-11485: Banded on 04-30-80 at the refuge as a SY-M. It was trapped and released by Morgan James III at Fredonia, N.Y. on 05-10-80. This is about 51 miles west of the banding station.

Broad-winged Hawk:

#685-52305: Banded on 08-08-71 at the refuge as a U-U. It was found dead (presumed hit by a moving vehicle) by Tomizak, Orchard Park, N.Y. The bird was found on Bush Hill Road about 1 mile south of the banding station on 05-08-80. This bird as at least 8 years old and was the only Broad-winged Hawk I've ever banded.

Wood Duck:

#685-52319: Banded on 04-06-80 at the refuge as an AHY-M. It was shot by W.L. Jessop of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada near Balsom Lake, Ontario. This is between Lake Simcoe and Bobcageon, Ontario. The bird was shot on 09-27-80. This is about 152 miles north north west of the banding station.

Foreign Retraps in 1980:

Four reports of foreign retraps were received from the Banding Office in 1980.

Tree Sparrow:

#1510-97057: Banded 11-26-78 by Regina Van Scoy near Limestone, N.Y. as a U-U. This bird was trapped and released at the refuge on 01-04-80. It had traveled about 26 miles north east of the spot of banding.

Evening Grosbeak:

#78-129122: Banded 02-24-80 by David Junkin near Java Village, N.Y. as an AHY-F. This bird was trapped and released at the refuge on 04-09-80. It was trapped about 19 miles due south of the point of banding. Mr. Junkin is the resident naturalist at Beaver Meadow Educational Environmental Center run by the Buffalo Audubon Society.

Volume 47, Number 2 - "Banding" (con't.)

Purple Finch:

#920-25159: Banded on 01-16-80 by B.B. Coffey Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee as an AHY-U. This bird was trapped and released at the refuge on 05-04-80. It was captured about 800 miles north east of the spot of banding.

Canada Goose:

#678-90919: Banded on 07-07-78 by personnel of the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources near Bearsville, West Virginia as an AHY-U. This bird came to our pond with one other Canada Goose on 06-26-80 and remained during the molt period. Both birds left on 08-26-80. There are five other Canada Geese that remain permanently on the pond. The band number was read using binoculars and verified at a later date when the bird came to feed with the other waterfowl. It was tame enough to come close enough for me to read the numbers without optical aid. This bird was about 257 miles north north east of the point of banding.

Recap of Returns, Recoveries and Foreign Retraps:

	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
Banded	588	1332	1652	1690	1530	2036	2074	2085	2439	2622	2340	1600	1224	1102	1610
Returns	12	127	157	209	168	214	204	184	225	184	207	79	97	122	140
Recovery		3	5	2	4	5	2	5	7	7	14	6	6	4	7
Foreign Retrap		1		1	1		3	1	8	8	5		2		4

Totals: Banded - 25924 Returns - 2329 Recovery - 77 Foreign Retrap - 34

<u>Species:</u>	<u>Rec.</u>	<u>F.R.</u>	<u>Species:</u>	<u>Rec.</u>	<u>F.R.</u>
Canada Goose		1	Wilson's Warbler	1	
Wood Duck	1		Red-winged Blackbird	4	
Broad-winged Hawk	1		Northern Oriole	1	
Am. Woodcock	1		C. Grackle	6	
B.B. Cuckoo	1		B.H. Cowbird	2	
Screech Owl	1		Evening Grosbeak	34	20
Blue Jay	2		Purple Finch		3
B.C. Chickadee	2		Am. Goldfinch	5	1
W.B. Nuthatch	1		Tree Sparrow	3	5
Gray Catbird	1		W.T. Sparrow	2	2
Starling	4		Song Sparrow	1	1
Yellow Warbler	1				
Y.R. Warbler	2	1	Total	77	34

Volume 47, Number 2

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

JAN. 14, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

From the Membership Committee

Mr. and Mrs. John Wright were accepted for membership.
Also, the following were accepted for Active Membership:
Esther Becker, Bill Bogacki, Bob Brock, Bill Burch, Richard Christensen,
Blayne Farnan, Bob Klips, and Lincoln Nutting,

A questionnaire was given out by Bob Klips on Field Trips and Programs.
Please respond. The Hospitality Table was presented again, tonight. Thank you.

From the refuge: signs were put up. Fencing was erected.

New Business:

Marie Wendling says we are now exchanging with the 'Bird Watchers Digest.'

Bob Andrie read a report on the possible action of putting the Mourning Dove on the game bird list. Harriette Klabunde made a motion, which was passed, to send a letter to the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation explaining our viewpoint against such action. The Breeding Bird Atlas project would like more participants, and now to make things easier, pocket checklists are available.

The Research Committee is yet to be reorganized. The Program was given by Karen Geiger on Tiffet Farm. Birding reports were given by Harriette Klabunde and Audrey Horbett.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen E. Renning

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

JAN. 28, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown.

The secretary's report was approved as corrected and the treasurer's report was approved as read.

From the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs

Windmills are to be set up in various areas around here and comments from Art Clark were passed on to the Chairman of the Windmill Committee by Walter Klabunde.

A signup sheet is to be passed around for the Grapevine.

Volume 47, Number 2 "Minutes" (con't.)

For the "Dinner" a chairman or co-chairman is needed.

Ken Balmas gave a review of the Christmas Count. On this subject, Fran Rew made a motion that the B.O.S. pay the fee for the six count participants who failed to pay so that the names and records could be included in our report. Marcy Foster seconded the motion which passed.

The films shown were "The Lady and the Owl," and "The Smith's Falls Carvers."

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen E. Renning

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

September 9, 1981 - "Summer Birding Experiences of Members" The annual opening meeting of the season features the members, who are invited to tell of their recent birding experiences afield. Slides, snapshots, movies, and anecdotes are all welcome.

September 23, 1981 - "Beachcombing for Birds." For over 5 years Syracuse area naturalist Christian Spies has been conducting an intensive survey of beached birds along the Lake Ontario shoreline near Oswego. His purposes: To obtain specimens, determine mortality patterns, and document the occurrence of unusual species. Jaegers, Gannet, and rare gulls are some of his finds. Chris will share with us some of his discoveries and show how birds are identified "in hand" - often past the species level - sometimes from just mere fragments.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Dr., Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

THE
OCT 16 1981
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

MARCH 1981

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

The weather in February was unusually mild and as is to be expected, added impetus to the bird migration. The average temperature for the month was 32.9°(F) , 6.5° above average. Precipitation measured 3.50 inches, 0.95 inches above the norm but snowfall recorded at the Greater Buffalo International Airport was only 5.0 inches, the greatest amount being 1.4 inches accumulating during snow squalls on the evening of February 8th. Heavy gale force winds on the 11th were followed by a sharp drop in temperature on the 12th and then a steady warming trend culminated in a record high temperature of 65°(F) on February 22nd. Although temperatures were cooler for the balance of the month, they remained above average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The advent of unseasonably warm weather by mid-month with temperatures as much as 27°(F) above normal triggered a significant movement of spring migrants through the Niagara Frontier region. John Morse reported the first Whistling Swans of the season at the Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on February 28th when a flock of sixty birds made an appearance with an additional 150 in a field near East Shelby. On that same date, over 600 swans were seen at Beaver Meadow in the Town of Java, 103 swans at Derby and five swans at the Thruway Pond at Dunkirk. The first migrant Canada Geese appeared at the Iroquois refuge on February 18th when Morse counted a total of 132 birds; by February 23rd, the number had increased to 5000. The migration of icterids and other passerines in February was exciting. Arthur Schaffner writes that he believes the February thaw "ushered in the biggest icterid flight in the history of the region." In nineteen minutes of observing at

Pinehurst sub-division on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg on February 14th, Schaffner tallied 962 Redwing Blackbirds and 100 Common Grackles. A short distance away, Mr. David Powers, a novice at the Piarist Fathers Seminary on the grounds of the former Larkin estate on the Old Lake Shore Road in Derby, reported similar flights increasing in size daily. Mr. Powers is a field observer most enviably situated as the seminary, on the south shore of Lake Erie, is located on a major spring migration route of swans, geese, ducks, hawks, icterid and other diurnal passerine migrants. In his first month of observing at this location, Mr. Powers witnessed the arrival of the first flocks of swans, geese and Red-wing Blackbirds. On February 28th, between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., he estimated over 168,700 passerines flew by, including 15,039 grackles and 1,682 goldfinches. The remainder were long tailed icterids, presumably Red-wing Blackbirds.

Other interesting records for the month include an immature Black-legged Kittiwake seen at Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by Arthur Schaffner on February 21st. It is the first inland record for this species in our study area. Schaffner also observed a Brant in the east branch of the Niagara River at Grand Island on February 21st. This was the earliest date this species has been recorded in our study area. The European Goldfinch first reported in these pages last month did not return to the feeder of Flora Elderkin on Crown Street in Jamestown after January 23rd but reappeared at the home of David Cooney on Colfax Street in that city on February 8th. It was seen at that location and at a feeder on Chautauqua Street nearby for the rest of the month. The female Rose-breasted Grosbeak first reported from Harold Axtell's feeder in the Town of Fort Erie on January 24th, remained at that location throughout February. Finally, a Boreal Chickadee seen at a feeder on Chestnut Ridge Road in the Town of Orchard Park was presumed to be a different individual from the one reported earlier in the winter from the same location as this bird was noticeably more pale in color.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

Volume 47, Number 3-"Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> (Feb.)	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Horned Grebe	28	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Pied-billed Grebe	28	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Great Blue Heron	2,5	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	8	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	19	1	Amity	Pitzricks
*Whistling Swan	28F	108	Evans	Powers
	28F	36	Town of Oakfield	Andrle et al
	28F	67	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	28F	60	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	28F	15	Dunkirk	Rew
Canada Goose	1,15	15,39	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	14F	8	Riverside	Elderkin
	18	132	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	21	9	Town of Newstead	Schaffner
	22	4000	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	23	5000	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
	28	76	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
*Brant	28	1	Grand Island	Schaffner
Mallard	17F	915	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
Black Duck	17F	40	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
Gadwall	8	1	Bertie Twp., Ont.	Schaffner
	8,26	2,20	Grand Island	Schaffner
Pintail	5	1	Buffalo	Schaffner
	7,8	5,3	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	18F	7	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Richardson
	22	60	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	27	31	Town of Newstead	Schaffner
Redhead	26	21	Grand Island	Schaffner
*Ring-necked Duck	23F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	27	9	Iroquois NWR	Rew
Common Goldeneye	20F	6	Iroquois NWR	Morse
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	8	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
*King Eider	15	2	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell
White-w. Scoter	15	4	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Axtell
Hooded Merganser	27F	2	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
	27F	5	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Richardson
	27F	5	Iroquois NWR	Rew
Red-br. Merganser	6,14	70,150	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al
Common Merganser	18F	6	Iroquois NWR	Morse

Volume 47, Number 3-"Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> Feb.	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Sharp-sh. Hawk	6	1	Wales	Roshhes
	12	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	22	1	Black Creek Twp., Ont.	Schaffner
	23	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Cooper's Hawk	1-12	1-3	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-28	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	2	1	Elma	Forsberg
	2	1	Holland	Becker
	3	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	4, 7	1, 1	Spring Brook	Danner
	5, 10, 19	1, 1, 1	Belmont	Burtons
	7	1	Evans	Powers
	8	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Schaffner, Axtell
	14	1	Evans	Rew
	14	1	Dunkirk	Rew
Red-tailed Hawk	13	13	over Evans	Powers
	28	3	over Pinehurst	Schaffner
*Red-should. Hawk	28F	1	over Pinehurst	Schaffner
Rough-leg. Hawk	4, 5, 7	1, 1, 1	Amity	Burtons
	18	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	22	2	Town of Hanover	Andrle et al
	22	1	Town of Evans	Andrle et al
	24	1	Sheldon	Rosches
	25	1	Evans	Powers
	27	1	Town of Alabama	Rew et al
Marsh Hawk	13, 23	1, 1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	22	2	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	26, 28	4, 2	Over Evans	Powers
Ruffed Grouse	22	1	Willoughby, Ont.	Schaffner
American Coot	14, 28	5, 9	Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
*Killdeer	22F	1	Town of Pembroke	Seamans
Glaucous Gull	8	1	Niagara Falls	Schaffner
*Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	21	1	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
(imm.)				
Common Flicker	1-28	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	5, 6	1, 1	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	7	5	Evans	Powers
	7	1	Forest Lawn, Bflo	Schaffner
	20	1	Frewsburg	Elderkin
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	2-13	1	Wales	Rosche
	15	2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Red-headed Wdpkr.	1	3	Evans	Powers

Volume 47, Number 3-'Noteworthy Records' (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Horned Lark (<u>L.a. alpestris</u>)	17	3	Elma	Danner
Tufted Titmouse	1	3	Evans	Powers
	1-28	2	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
Mockingbird	7	1	Elma	Forsberg
	1, 18	2, 1	Ransomville	McKales
American Robin	1, 13	2, 2	Elma	Forsberg
	1, 26	8, 34	Evans	Powers
	1-28	6	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-28	7-10	Spring Brook	Danner
	2	1	Wales	Rosche
	2-11	1	Elma	Forsberg
	5, 7, 18	1, 1, 2	Tiffy Farm N.P.	Schaffner
	7, 25	5, 1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	7	4	Elma	Forsberg
	7	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Schaffner
	11, 16, 22	1, 2, 1c	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	14	1	Randolph	Schaffner
	14	1	Stow	Schaffner
	14	1	Sheridan	Schaffner
	14	4	Taylor Hollow	Schaffner
	21, 27	3, 1	Cheektowaga	Schwartz
	21	25	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
	21	1	Buffalo	Schaffner
	21	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
	24	1	Belmont	Buttrons
Eastern Bluebird	21, 220F	3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	21-28	1-4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	25	2	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
Golden-cr. Kinglet	7	1	Alfred Brooks	Brooks
	20	1	Evans	Powers
	23	1	Amity	Pitzrick
Red-w. Blackbird	1-10	7-10	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	17F	35	Friendship	Pitzrick
	17F, 20	5, 5	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	20	800	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	20	200	Town of Alabama	Seamans
	25	150	Jamestown	Elderkin
	26	690	over Evans	Powers
	28	962	over Pinehurst	Schaffner

Volume 47, Number 3 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
*Rusty Blackbird	24F	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	28	2	Evans	Powers
Common Grackle	17, 18	1, 1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	20F, 23, 25	1, 4, 1	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	22-28	5	Spring Brook	Danner
	22	1	Willoughby, Ont.	Schaffner
	28	100	over Pinehurst	Schaffner
	28	15, 039	over Evans	Powers
(record count; part of icterid flight exceeding 150,000 birds)				
Brown-h. Cowbird	1	4	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	3	7	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	4-28	1-12	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	16	8	Tonawanda	Schaffner
	20F	2	Evans	Powers
	22	5	Town of Batavia	Seamans
Rose-br. Grosbeak	1-28	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell, Schaffner
Evening Grosbeak	1-28	69	Alfred	Brooks
	1-28	8-61	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	1-28	40	Holland	Becker
	1-28	20-75	Belmont	Burtans
	14	3	Allegheny State Pk.	Schaffner
	14	6	Vandalia (f)	Schaffner, Eaton
	17, 20, 25	70, 40, 50	Wales	Rosches
	27	5	Town of Alabama (f)	Schaffner
Purple Finch	1	1	Evans	Powers
	1-28	4	Belmont	Burtans
	6	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	7	1	Buffalo	Schaffner
	13-14	3	Holland	Becker
	14	2	Orchard Park	Saville
House Finch	1-28	6-10	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	1-28	2-4	Depew (f)	Barber
	1-28	6-8	Belmont	Burtans
	1-28	20-30	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	3	30-35	Eggertsville	Hulls
	4-28	6-12	Eggertsville	Hulls
	7	1	Forest Lawn, Bflo	Schaffner
	10	1	Alfred	Brooks
	15, 22	8, 5	Scio (f)	Pitzricks
	26	2	Buffalo	Rex
	3-27	1-5	Amity Lake	Pitzricks

Volume 47, Number 3-"Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Common Redpoll	1-28	3-12	Depew (f)	Barbers
	1-28	1-2	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	2-5	1	Town of Batavia	Seamans
	2,7	1,1	Eggertsville	Hulls
	7-9	3	Orchard Park	Saville
	11	10	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	21,24	1,1	Eggertsville	Hulls
Pine Siskin	1-28	15	Holland	Becker
	4-28	6-10	Belmont	Burtons
	7	6	Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Schaffner
	15-28	4	Orchard Park	Saville
	25	1	Evans	Powers
	25,26	1,1	Wales	Rosche
American Goldfinch	28	1682	over Evans	Powers
Rufous-s. Towhee	1	4	Evans	Powers
	1-28	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	1-22	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
White-cr. Sparrow	1-28	1-2	Belmont	Burton
White-thr. Sparrow	1	46	Evans	Powers
	1-28	60	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-28	2	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	1-12	3-6	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	1-28	1-6	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-28	8-12	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	1-28	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	8	2	Wales	Rosche
	8	18	Grand Island (f)	McKales
	1-8	28	Town of Pomfret (f)	Rew et al
	11	1	Holland	Becker
Song Sparrow	1	1	Evans	Powers
	1-28	4	Spring Brook	Danner
	1-28	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	1-28	1	Orchard Park	Saville
	1-28	2	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	1-28	1-4	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	3	2	Wales	Rosche
	18-28	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
	22	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Schaffner
	4	150	Town of Angelica	Burtons, Jordan
Snow Bunting	6	50	Java Center	Barbers
	6	20	Wethersfield Springs	Barbers
	13	80	Kiantone	Elderkin
	17	300	Elma	Danner

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.....	101
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue.....	8
Total for year.....	109

Erratum: Vol 46, July 1980, Number

Noteworthy Records should read:

Olive-s. Flycatcher June 2L 1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont. Axtell

There is an error in the Report of the 52nd B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count-- it is in the "Species Account" (Vol. 47 No. 1; p. 12). It lists the 8 House Finches as having been reported from Territories E and F. Instead, it should read that they were reported from Territories F and G (no House Finches were reported from Territory E). Marie Wendling and Wavel and Maxine Barber reported seeing 3 House Finches at a feeder in Territory G.

Ken Balmas
9330 Main St.
Clarence, NY. 14031

Birdbanding 1980 at Farmersville Station (continued from last issue):

Banding Returns in 1980:

The following birds were recaptured 90 days or more after their previous capture.

Species	Ind	Times	Known minimum years of age									Total
			9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
Hairy Woodpecker	1	1		1								1
Downy Woodpecker	2	2								1	1	2
Blue Jay	9	9	1	1	1	1				4	1	9
R.W. Blackbird	1	1		1								1
No. Oriole	1	1				1						1
Purple Finch	9	9							4	2	3	9
Am. Goldfinch	11	13			1			1		1	8	11
W.T. Sparrow	1	1									1	1
Tree Sparrow	6	6					1			2	3	6
Chipping Sparrow	1	1					1					1

Volume 47, Number 3- "Banding 1980" (con't.)

Species	Ind.	Times	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Total				
D.E. Junco	6	7						1		5	1	6				
Song Sparrow	3	3				1		1		2		3				
Cardinal	3	4				1		2				3				
R.B. Grosbeak	2	2				2						2				
G. Catbird	3	3						1		2		3				
B.C. Chickadee	75	90				2	2	6	18	24	23	75				
Veery	4	4					1		3			4				
Robin	2	2					1			1		2				
Total	140	159	1	3	2	7	6	11	25	44	41	141				
Species	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	Total
Am. Woodcock		1														1
N. Flicker		1	1	2		1	1		1							7
Hairy Woodpecker		8	8	13	11	14	10	6	3	4	6	2	1	1	1	90
Downy Woodpecker	2	19	18	29	27	27	29	27	5	3	6				2	194
E. Phoebe											1					1
Tree Swallow			1	1	1	1	2	1			1					8
R.W. Swallow				1			1									2
Blue Jay		5	7	7	9	8	15	10	25	25	26	13	2	12	9	173
B.C. Chickadee	7	39	35	57	50	66	48	35	35	40	39	19	36	74	75	655
Tufted Titmouse						2	2	2								6
W.B. Nuthatch	1	5	3	6	6	5	11	5	5	2	3	1	2			55
Brown Creeper		1	2	1		2	1	2								9
House Wren		1	2	6	6		1	1			1					18
Gray Catbird		7	8	6	8	4	6	4	1	6	4	2	1		3	60
Am. Robin		2	5	4	1	2	1	4	1	2	1	1			2	26
Wood Thrush						1	1									2
Veery			5	4	3	1			1		2	1	2	2	4	25
Starling			2		1			1	4	1						9
N. Shrike													1			1
R.E. Vireo						1				1						2
Bl-w. Warbler			1	2				1		1						5
Yellow Warbler			1	3	4											8
C.S. Warbler		1														1
C. Yellowthroat		1								1						2
Am. Redstart			1													1
R.W. Blackbird		3	10	5	6	7	11	15	2		9	1			1	70
No. Oriole			1	4	3	1	1		2	3	1	1	1		1	19
Rusty Blackbird				1												1
C. Grackle		2	2		1	1	4	2	2	1	8	2	1	1		27
B.H. Cowbird				3		1	5	13	11	4	3	3				43

Volume 47, Number 3-"Banding 1980" (con't.)

Species	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	T
Scarlet Tanager							1									
Cardinal							1	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	1
R.B. Grosbeak		1	1	1	1							2	3	4	2	1
Even. Grosbeak									2	7	15					2
Purple Finch								1				1	8	1	9	2
Am. Goldfinch									11	4	9				11	3
RS. Towhee				2	1	1		1	1							
D.E. Junco				1		2	3	1	6	3	4	2	5	10	6	4
Tree Sparrow		15	24	35	17	54	43	47	99	69	61	20	28	8	6	5
Chipping Sparrow						1	1				2	3	2		1	1
Field Sparrow		6	4	2		1			1							1
W.T. Sparrow										1		3			1	
Swamp Sparrow			1								1					
Song Sparrow		9	14	13	12	10	5	4	6	4	2	1	3	6	3	9
Total	12	127	157	209	168	214	204	184	225	184	207	79	97	122	140	2

Distribution of Banding Totals by Families:

Both spring and fall migrations were slow but improved a little over the past two years. Sparrows and finches continue to be the most commonly banded species. Purple Finch and American Goldfinch were banded in the highest numbers ever but Tree Sparrow were the lowest in fifteen years of banding. Blue Jays were significantly lower in numbers. Woodpeckers continue their five year decline in numbers. Could this be partially due to the dead elms finally succumbing to decay and falling over? Except for Tree Swallows, the numbers of swallows have declined during migration and during the summer. This might be due to a sparse fly hatch in the ponds since the sunfish have become too plentiful.

Family	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Sparrows	42.5	35.2	35.4	39.5	43.6	55.5	47.5	60.3	68.6	66.8	72.7	76.7	69.4	64.1	71.1
Warblers	5.6	11.6	20.2	15.6	22.7	9.8	21.8	9.5	7.3	14.0	7.4	5.9	8.6	7.2	8.3
Blackbirds	8.7	11.4	7.6	4.7	2.0	5.2	7.4	8.1	5.0	2.5	4.2	4.0	.3	1.9	2.0
Chickadees	8.4	4.3	4.8	6.3	6.1	4.3	2.1	2.0	2.6	4.0	4.6	7.0	7.6	6.9	6.7
Thrushes	7.3	8.6	4.4	3.5	3.1	6.1	2.0	7.6	1.4	2.6	1.6	.8	1.8	5.1	4.0
Jays	2.8	3.3	3.1	4.4	2.7	3.1	5.5	1.4	4.5	2.5	3.6	1.7	6.5	6.7	1.6
Mimic Thrush	7.2	4.4	4.3	4.2	3.7	3.1	1.6	2.4	2.1	1.5	1.2	1.2	2.0	3.0	2.5
Woodpeckers	5.8	3.7	2.9	3.1	5.0	3.5	2.2	1.5	1.1	.9	.5	.2	.5	.8	.6
Swallows	.7	.9	5.0	7.8	4.1	1.6	5.5	.1	.2	.1	.1	.2	.1	.3	.1
Kinglets	.7	3.1	3.7	2.6	1.1	1.2	1.1	.8	.7	1.3	1.5	.3	.2	.2	.3

Volume 47, Number 3-"Banding Totals" (Con't.)

Family	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Flycatchers	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.0	1.5	1.3	.8	1.7	.9	.6	.5	.3	1.1	1.0	.7
Starlings	.7	3.8	1.5	1.0	1.4	.8	.7	.4	2.5	1.0	.4	.2	-	.1	-
Vireos	.4	.4	.5	.7	.4	2.4	.4	1.9	1.2	.9	.6	.2	.7	.7	.5
Wrens	1.2	4.1	1.3	.8	.4	.3	.2	.1	.4	.2	.3	.2	.1	.4	-
Nuthatches	1.5	.4	.6	1.4	1.0	.5	.6	.2	.2	.3	.2	.3	.1	.5	.2
Waxwings	.3	.4	1.1	1.5	.1	.3	-	.7	.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Creepers	.2	.3	.1	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	.2	-	.1	.2
Tanagers	-	.1	.1	-	.1	.1	-	.3	.4	.3	.1	.1	.2	.1	-
Cuckoos	-	.4	.2	.2	.1	.1	-	.3	.1	-	.1	-	.2	.2	.1
Ducks	3.1	.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.3	.4	.1
Sandpipers	.3	.2	.3	.4	.1	.1	.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.1
Shrikes	-	-	-	-	.1	.1	-	.1	.2	.1	.1	.2	.1	-	-
Kingfishers	.2	.3	.1	-	-	.1	-	.1	.1	-	-	-	-	.1	.1
Hawks	-	.1	-	-	-	-	.1	-	.1	.1	.1	.3	-	-	.1
Owls	-	.1	-	.1	.1	-	.1	.1	-	-	.1	-	.1	-	-
Titmice	-	-	-	-	.2	.1	.1	.1	-	.1	-	-	-	-	-
Doves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	-	.1	.1	-
Hérons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	.1	.1
Swifts	-	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100% of	588	1332	1652	1690	1530	2036	2074	2085	2439	2622	2340	1600	1224	1102	1610

Family	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	
Sparrows	58.1	Jays	3.5	Flycatchers	1.3	Waxwings	.3
Warblers	12.0	Mimic Thrush	2.6	Starlings	1.0	Creepers	.2
Blackbirds	4.9	Woodpeckers	2.0	Vireos	.9	Tanagers	.1
Chickadees	4.8	Swallows	1.8	Wrens	.5	Cuckoos	.1
Thrushes	3.7	Kinglets	1.3	Nuthatches	.5	Ducks	.1
						Owls	.03

Total of 100% of 25924

Statistical Breakdown of Banding Operations:

Mist nets were used to capture 39.5% of the birds while 60.4% were caught in traps. .1% were caught in other ways. "Days netted" improved this year due to more normal weather. Both spring and fall migrations were poor.

Birds Caught						Ave.	Days	Hours	Birds
Year	Net	Trap	Nestling	Other	Total	Nets	Netted	Netted	100/Net Hr.
1966	616	136	22	6	780	3.0	71		
1967	1685	327	83		2095	3.0	127		
1968	2345	128			2473	5.3	143	7119	33
1969	2576	296			2872	4.8	141	6223	41
1970	2247	192	35	1	2475	4.5	123	5133	44

Volume 47, Number 3-"Banding Operations" (con't.)

Birds		Caught		Ave.		Days	Hours	Birds
Year	Net	Trap	Nestling	Other	Total	Nets	Netted	Netted 100/Net.
1971	3026	274			3300	5.0	125	50
1972	2668	715		5	3388	3.5	119	81
1973	3557	1616		3	5176	4.2	133	66
1974	1535	4388		5	5928	4.2	118	42
1975	1694	4057		11	5762	5.0	107	39
1976	1653	3152		5	4810	3.6	122	62
1977	739	2246		9	2994	3.9	80	57
1978	716	1817		6	2539	4.8	82	52
1979	617	1566		5	2188	5.9	79	29
1980	1118	1708		2	2828	5.5	97	36
Total	26792	22618		58	49608		1667	51768

Year	Days Banded	New Birds Banded	Returns	Repeats	Foreign Retraps	Recoveries	Species
1966	71	588	12	180	-	-	54
1967	130	1332	127	635	1	3	82
1968	143	1652	157	664	-	5	80
1969	143	1690	209	972	1	2	83
1970	128	1530	168	776	1	4	90
1971	138	2036	214	1050	-	5	90
1972	119	2074	204	1107	3	2	82
1973	208	2085	184	2906	1	5	86
1974	257	2439	225	3256	8	7	80
1975	259	2622	184	2948	8	7	84
1976	251	2340	207	2258	5	14	74
1977	211	1600	79	1315	-	6	62
1978	191	1224	97	1216	2	6	67
1979	199	1102	122	964	-	4	69
1980	227	1610	140	1074	4	7	72
Total	2675	25924	2329	21321	34	77	126

Ten Most Commonly Banded Birds:

1980		15 Year Total	
260	Dark-eyed Junco	4138	Tree Sparrow
242	Evening Grosbeak	2648	Dark-eyed Junco
225	American Goldfinch	2473	Evening Grosbeak
165	Purple Finch	1641	Song Sparrow
108	Black-capped Chickadee	1265	White-throated Sparrow
93	Tree Sparrow		
71	White-throated Sparrow	1236	Black-capped Chickadee
45	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1174	Yellow-rumped Warbler
42	Song Sparrow	907	Blue Jay
39	Gray Catbird	683	American Goldfinch
		633	Gray Catbird

Injuries, Deformities and Variations Noted on Birds Captured:

851-86071	Evening Grosbeak	Coloring lighter than normal, rump almost white
1480-11268	D.E. Junco	Middle secondary coverts white
1420-42446	Chipping Sparrow	Talon missing right rear, toe missing inside right
1480-11823	D.E. Junco	5-mm. orb on right eye
1480-11904	D.E. Junco	4 mm orb on left ankle
1480-11955	Tree Sparrow	Center talon left foot white

Birds Observed at the Refuge:

No new species were seen at the refuge this year.

Year	Species	New Species	Total	Year	Species	New Species	Total
1959	72	72	72	1970	132	4	177
1960	100	38	110	1971	130	3	180
1961	101	18	128	1972	129	-	180
1962	112	15	143	1973	127	-	180
1963	106	5	148	1974	129	1	181
1964	109	5	153	1975	125	3	184
1965	115	4	157	1976	123	1	185
1966	122	6	163	1977	122	1	186
1967	125	3	166	1978	121	2	188
1968	121	4	170	1979	119	1	189
1969	128	3	173	1980	122	-	189

THE BLACKBIRDS ARE COMING!

The last few days of February produced some unseasonably high temperatures with figures in the 50's not uncommon. This caused very early northward migrations on the part of several species including: robins, hawks, geese, swans, and blackbi.

I usually bird the skies in the early afternoon, but on weekends I can beg earlier. On Saturday, February 28, 1981, I started at 6:30 am by looking at the ice on Lake Erie. I live at the Piarist Fathers Residence which is situated at 6472 Lake Shore Road in the town of Evans, next to 18 Mile Creek and right on the lake-shore. Around 7:00 a.m., I began to hear blackbird calls overhead. Since it is my custom to record the number of individuals as well as species I see each day, I began to jot down the number of birds within the flocks as they flew overhead. But, they kept coming and coming and coming and coming.

I was standing in a small, open field with good sightlines over both the shore and water. The flocks were fairly small at first, and it was easy to count the exact number, give or take a few, within them. I was using a pair of Sears 7-15x40mm zoom binoculars to observe them. Later, the flock sizes became so large that it was necessary to start estimating their numbers by the extended fist method.

Very simply, whenever there is a large flock of birds numbering in the thousands they usually tend to distribute themselves fairly uniformly. Therefore, by extending your arm and making a fist you approximate or rough-count the number of birds in blocks. Then by moving your fist around, you can guesstimate the number of birds within a large flock. It is important to do this rather quickly as your fist will cover increasingly larger numbers of birds as they move away from you. You must also be able to compute fractions quickly. For flocks of birds in the hundreds or less, you either exact or rough-count the number of individuals in either a half, a third, or a fourth of the flock as determined by eye dissection and multiply by two, three, or four as the case may be. It is always better to be conservative than liberal.

The weatherman had stated that a low front was going to be passing through the area with a snow storm threatening to deposit 4-5" behind it. I, therefore, guessed that these birds were trying to stay ahead of the front and approaching storm. A number of birds will do this, especially when migrating, so it was not an unreasonable assumption. A front will actually help push the birds ahead as will the winds around a tropical storm.

Almost as if someone rang the school bell to signal the end of recess, at 11:00 a.m., on the dot, the flights stopped. At no time before that had the flights been interrupted for more than two minutes. I then sat back and waited either for more birds or the threatened storm, but neither came. That evening's local news revealed that the storm had veered towards the south, but still there were no more birds that afternoon. I would have expected a few small flights here and there, yet I stayed out until 4:00 with just a half hour lunch break, but no blackbird flocks flew over at all, just the usual local residents flying back and forth.

I stop a little short in saying that my vast hoards were actually one, two, or three large flocks that simply got themselves spread out along the way for a couple of reasons. First, my past experiences with huge flocks of blackbirds has shown me that they usually do not spread themselves out too much. They do tend to stay somewhat together or, at least, did not have as long or as many breaks in the line as I had with these birds. Second, there were very definite "other passerines" travelling in flocks during the morning rush hour traffic which is not characteristic of a large blackbird flock. I could actually identify only the goldfinches by their unmistakable call. Some of the other passerines were just too small to be blackbirds, but they were not calling. Four hawks and a cumulative total of over 800 "ducks" (probably mostly goldeneyes) rounded out the morning's flight activities.

I suspect that most of the blackbirds were red-winged blackbirds. I know that red-wings, rustys, and cowbirds were among them for I was able to get enough of them to land in trees for a short respite to identify them. The local neighborhood starlings were a big aid in getting some of the blackbirds to land for awhile, but there were positively NO STARLINGS at all mixed in with any of the migrants. The grackles were the only blackbirds that it was safe to call on the wing, and I have fairly good numbers on them. Also, as far as I could tell, the

blackbirds have not been reading the recent court rulings on racial integration; as far as I could tell, there were no "mixed flocks" or, at least, no grackles were ever mixed in with the other blackbirds.

My largest flocks were: 58,000 at 8:30 a.m. (the only one I actually noted the time for); 20,000; 12,000; 10,000; 8,600; 6,000; and 5,000. All of them were blackbirds with the exception of the last which were grackles. My total figures were: 170,288 passerines, 152,255 blackbirds, 15,039 grackles, 1,682 goldfinch, 1,312 unidentified small passerines, 824 ducks, and 4 hawks. I am including a list of the exact numbers I recorded in my notebook in the order in which I recorded them at the end of this article. I am sure that these figures are conservative in that I tended to estimate conservatively, I was covering a rather small air space and while I was counting some of the larger flocks, it is most probable that other flocks flew by me.

The total flight time was almost exactly four hours. Most of them were flying just over the shoreline. I had seen small flocks of blackbirds, with number ranging between 50 and 300, before this date, but that is far and away the largest number of migrants I have seen in this area to date. It is believed that it may well be the largest number of migrating blackbirds seen within a four hour time span in recent, recorded, ornithological history. Yet, it all happened quite by chance with my stepping out of the house and looking up.

David B. Powers
The Piarist Fathers
Box 786
6472 Lake Shore Road
Derby, New York 14047

CORRECTIONS FOR THE NEW ROSTER

So far we have learned of only two corrections to be made in the new Roster:

Swiencicki, Dr. James P.

72 Shire S.

East Amherst, New York 14051 Tel. 689-6609

Marvin, Mr. and Mrs. John D. III

1260 North Forest Road, No. 1 Adams

There are undoubtedly other corrections to be made. Will you please notify Peggy Daniels or Marie Wendling?

MINUTES OF THE BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FEB. 25, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved as read

See Ed Williams for the April Count, April, 12th.

Volume 47, Number 3-"Minutes" (con't.)

The Buffalo Audubon has invited us to their meeting on April 1, to see a slide program by Sheldon Merritt.

The New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation replied to our letter stating no positive action either way would be taken until mid-winter or later. (Mourning Doves)

Symposium on owls led by Harriet Klabunde included Walter Klabunde, Wavel Barber, Bob Klips and Dick Christensen.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Renning

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

October 14 - "Bird Vision vs. Human Vision," Dr. Robert E. Bannon and Jack Wright. An explanation into how birds see compared to how we see, highlighting some recent discoveries and still unanswered questions. Dr. Bannon, an ophthalmologist, is a Fellow and receiver of the American Academy of Optometry and former Associate Professor at several universities. Since 1951 he has been a consultant for Ophthalmic Instrument Development at American Optical Corp. for 45 years and is currently serving as Manager of Development Services.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, October 25: Oak Orchard and surrounding area. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Citibank at Transitown Plaza, located at Main St. and Transit Rd., Clarence, NY. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762)

Sunday, November 8: Lake Chautauqua. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Seneca Mall near Hengerer's for car-pooling. Leader: Fran Rew (822-0342)

Sunday, November 5: "Gulls etc....." Joint venture with the Genessee Ornithological Society. G.O.S. Leader: Gordon Meade (1-248-2032) Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Old Fort Niagara.

PROGRAM: DINNER MEETING

Friday, November 6 Dinner meeting at Romanello's Prime Rib; Transit and Sheridan, Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. (Note: This meeting replaces the regular October 28, Wednesday meeting. There will be regular Wednesday meetings at the Museum on November 11 and December 9.

PROGRAM: COUNTS

Sunday, October 11: Annual Fall Count. Compiler Bill Townsend (Home: 691-7775; work: 877-6300). Call Bill to volunteer your assistance.

LOCAL EVENTS

Friday, October 23 There will be a conference of local nature groups in the area. For information on place and time which was unknown at time of publication, call President Brad Low at 688-9433.

ODE TO AN ORIOLE

Flashes of orange,
Oak leaves rustle,
All insects beware.

Head draped in mourning,
Weaves with great skill,
Her nests with much care.

The elm and willow,
Drooping branches,
Her favorite place.

Tasty garden pests,
Caterpillars,
They're a hearty race.

Five eggs at one time,
Young want to dine,
They don't want to stay.

Icterus galbula,
Herald of spring,
Don't leave us this day.

David B. Powers
Box 786
Derby, New York 14047

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127
(655-4777)

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

PROGRAMS...FIELD TRIPS...PROGRAMS...FIELD TRIPS...PROGRAMS...

Hello. We're planning programs and field trips for 1982 and we need your help. Ideas, suggestions and active participation are very welcome from B.O.S. members.

PROGRAMS: If you know of an expert, hear a speaker, seen a film or in some manner know of a possible program source, please write it down in the spaces below and send it to me as soon as possible. Programs by members are especially desirable, so don't overlook your own experiences or a subject which you'd like to research and do a program about.

Speaker:

Bob Klips, Programs Chr.
Programs/Field Trips Committee
268 Ashland Ave.
Buffalo, NY. 14222 (882-7956)

Film:

Other:

FIELD TRIPS: If there is some site that you know of which might offer good birding, please suggest it. Any ideas to improve field-tripping or know a possible trip leader? In the interests of affordability and conservation, local places are especially desirable, so don't overlook spots close-to-home.

Esther Becker, Field Trips Chr.
Programs/Field Trips Committee
241 Canada St.
Holland, NY 14080 (537-2592)

Site and/or Leader:

Suggestion:

Other:

THANK YOU!



THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

THE

NOV 19 1981

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

APRIL 1981

NUMBER 4

THE MONTH

The phrase 'In like a lion, out like a lamb' was most descriptive of the weather in March. The first three weeks of the month were cold and snowy but milder weather setting in on March 21st persisted until the end of the period. A high temperature reading of 67°(F) for the month was recorded at Buffalo on March 29th. The average temperature of the month was 33.9°(F), 1.8° above normal. Precipitation measured 1.70 inches, 1.15 inches below the norm while snowfall at the Greater Buffalo International Airport was 13.2 inches for the month, with the heaviest fall of 3.6 inches recorded in squalls during the morning of March 17th. There were no major weather disturbances during the month. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Although precipitation on the Niagara Frontier was below average during the winter of 1980-81, there was enough water in the sinks and ponds in northeastern Erie County and the Oak Orchard area to attract large flocks of swans, geese and ducks throughout March. Both blue and white morph Snow Geese were seen at Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge as early as March 4th. On March 25th, a rare White-fronted Goose of unidentified race was reported from this location. Once again this spring, Walter Klabunde has undertaken the onerous but fascinating task of recording the daily movement of hawks and other raptors over the Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario just west of our study area. Actually, the spring passage of the raptors began in late February with a large movement of Rough-legged Hawks during the unseasonably warm weather we enjoyed then. As early as March 7th, a Turkey Vulture was seen during a flight of 127 hawks over Beamer Point. By March 31st, a total of 3,054 raptors, including as adult Bald Eagle and an adult Golden Eagle, was tallied by observers at this location. Of this number, 1,824 were Red-tailed Hawks and 448 were Red-shouldered Hawks. With the advent of warmer weather after March 20th, the numbers recorded daily increased considerably.

The female Harlequin Duck which wintered at Thompson's Hole in the Niagara River at Fort Erie was seen by many observers during March. The male Barrow's Goldeneye wintering at the water impoundment area at Niagara Falls, Ontario also remained throughout the month. A second male Barrow's Goldeneye was found at Celoron on Chautauqua Lake by Flora Elderkin on March 19th in the same location where a bird, similar in all respects, was observed last winter. The occurrence of two male Barrow's Goldeneyes in the same locations where these birds were seen last year tempts one to speculate on the probability that it is more than just a coincidence and indeed they are the same individuals wintering in a location to which they have returned by design, not accident.

Other interesting records for the month include the first Great Egret of the year seen at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on March 31st. On March 5th and 6th, the celebrated escaped white-phase Gyrfalcon mentioned in these pages over the last three months, was seen for the last time in the vicinity of Fuhrmann Boulevard on the Buffalo waterfront. Two immature Bald Eagles were seen throughout the month at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Finally, an adult Black-headed Gull was observed flying in the Niagara Gorge near Queenston, Ontario on March 20th and no fewer than 18 House Finches were reported from Niagara-on-the-Lake on that same date.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

Horned Grebe	March	1	2	Niagara River	Mitchell, Sandahl
"	"	27F	5	Derby	Powers
"	"	27F	4	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
Pied-b. Grebe	"	10	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
Gr. Blue Heron	"	1	1	Niagara River	Mitchell, Sandahl
"	"	22F	1	Amity	Pitzricks
"	"	23, 29	1, 1	Derby	Powers
*Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	31	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Whistling Swan	"	1	570	Newstead Sinks	McKales
"	"	1	122	Derby	Powers
"	"	1	97	Cherry Creek	Rew
"	"	1, 8	309, 442	Randolph	Pew
"	"	1, 15	300, 200	Tonawanda WMA	Danner
"	"	13, 25	225, 104	Randolph	Elderkin
"	"	22	210	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
"	"	22	201	Oak Orchard WMA	Andrle et al
Canada Goose	"	6, 24	30,000; 32,900	Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
(many records of small flocks; maximum counts)					

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 4-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
*Snow Goose	"	7	2	Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
		(2 blue morph)			
	"	8	10	Iroquois NWR	McKales
		(7 white, 3 blue morph)			
	"	22	3	Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
	"	27	2	Derby	Powers
		(2 blue morph)			
Gadwall	"	13	16	Celoron	Elderkin
	"	28	1	Buckhorn Is. St.Pk.	O'Dell
	"	29	3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Pintail	"	13F	20	Randolph	Elderkin
*Green-w. Teal	"	6F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	"	28	4	Buckhorn Is.St.Pk.	O'Dell
*Blue-w. Teal	"	18F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	"	28	3	Buckhorn Is.St.Park	O'Dell
American Wigeon	"	3F	60	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
*Northern Shoveler	"	20F	3	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
*Wood Duck	"	9F	1	Tonawanda WMA	Morse
	"	27	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Ring-necked Duck	"	29	2	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Lesser Scaup	"	27F	11	Derby	Powers
	"	29	5	Iroquois NWR	Morse (BOS)
	"	30	50	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	"	11	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner, Schwartz
	"	19,21	1	Celoron	Elderkin
	"	28	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Harlequin Duck	"	12	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	"	15-28	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	O'Dell
White-w. Scoter	"	1	5	Niagara River	Mitchell, Samdahl
	"	29	3	Derby	Powers
*Ruddy Duck	"	29F	15	Iroquois NWR	Morse (BOS)
Hooded Merganser	"	1	2	Niagara River	Mitchell, Samdahl
*Turkey Vulture	"	1	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	9	1	Tonawanda Ind.Res.	Schaffner
	"	12	1	Lackawanna	O'Dell
	"	27	28	Derby	Powers
*Goshawk	"	20	1	Belmont	Burtens
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	21	1	Darien Center	Harper
	"	29	4	Derby	Powers
	"	31	1	Alfred	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	"	6	1	Hamburg	Andrle, Foster
	"	13	1	Darien Center	Harper
	"	13,21	1,1	Wales	Rosches
	"	21,29	1,1	Spring Brook	Danner
Red-tailed Hawk	"	1	131	over Derby	Powers
Red-should. Hawk	"	22	2	Tonawanda WMA	Harper
	"	22	2	Town of Charlotte	Rew
	"	26	2	Alfred	Brooks
	"	29	23	over Derby	Powers
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	4	1	Riverside	Elderkin
	"	8	1	Sheldon	Barber
	"	24	5	Derby	Powers

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 4-"noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
*Bald Eagle	"	8	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales, Morse
		(immature 3rd year bird)			
	"	18	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
		(immature 2nd year bird)			
Marsh Hawk	"	9	17	over Derby	Powers
American Kestrel	"	29	5	Derby	Powers
Turkey	"	5	3	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
American Coot	"	26	1	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	"	29	1	Derby	Powers
Killdeer	"	13	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	18	1	Angelica	Burtens
*Amer. Woodcock	"	21F	1	Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	22	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Lesser Yellowlegs	"	31F	1	Tiffy Farm N.P.	O'Dell
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	29F	2	Lancaster	McKales
Glaucous Gull	"	1	1	Niagara River	Mitchell, Samdahl
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	1,25	43,123	Derby	Powers
*Snowy Owl	"	14,15,31	1,1,1	Buffalo	Andrle et al
	"	21	1	Niagara Falls	Rew, R. + P. Schwartz
	"	31	1	Buffalo Harbor	Way
*Long-eared Owl	"	8	2	Moulton Twop., Ont.	Andrle et al
Short-eared Owl	"	15	5	Wainfleet, Ont.	Andrle et al (BOS)
*Saw-whet Owl	"	8	1	Lorraine, Ont.	Andrle et al
Common Flicker	"	2	7	Derby	Powers
	"	4,31	1,2	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	25-31	1	Amity	Pitzrick
Red-bellied Wdpr.	"	1,8	1,2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	8-20	1	Wales	Rosche
Red-headed Wdpr.	"	1	2	Derby	Powers
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	31F	1	Amity	Pitzrick
*Eastern Phoebe	"	22F	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	"	24-31	1	Spring Brook	Danner
*Tree Swallow	"	27F	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Common Crow	"	1,8	60,118	Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	4	3	Derby	Powers
	"	28	1	Amity	Pitzrick
	"	28	1	Scio	Brooks
American Robin	"	1	731	over Derby	Powers
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	3-8	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	18	1	Belmont	Burtens
	"	28	2	Alfred	Brooks
	"	29	1	Darien	Hulls
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	7,23	1,3	Amity	Pitzrick
	"	15	2	Wales	Rosche
	"	19-31	2-4	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	21,22	1,2	Alfred	Brooks

Volume 47, Number 4-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Cedar Waxwing	"	1-31	1-103	Amity	Pitzrick
	"	19-23	138	Derby	Powers
	"	29	100	Wales	Rosches
Northern Shrike	"	1	1	Town of Amity	Burtions, Jordan
	"	2	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	"	7	1	Tonawanda WMA	Barbers
	"	12,19,31	1,1,1	Tonawanda WMA	Morse
Rusty Blackbird	"	7	25	Derby	Powers
	"	7	60-70	Frewsburg	Elderkin
	"	8	10	Cassadaga	Rew
	"	20-21	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
Common Grackle	"	11	12,656	over Derby	Powers
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1	120	over Derby	Powers
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	1-27	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-31	15-25	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	1-31	17-59	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	1-31	50-20	Belmont	Burtions
	"	16,27	50,50	Wales	Rosche
House Finch	"	1-31	15-253	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	1-31	12-15	Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	1-31	4-10	Belmont	Burtions
	"	1-31	2-4	Depew	Barbers
	"	1-22	4-6	Scio (f)	Pitzrick
	"	10-23	1-2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	11-31	1-6	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	"	14,21	2,2	Alfred	Brooks
	"	16,26	1,1	Wales	Rosche
	"	22,28,30	4,2,1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
Common Redpoll	"	1-31	2	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	1-29	2-8	Depew	Barbers
	"	6	2	Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	8	10	Lorraine, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	14,16	1,1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
Pine Siskin	"	1-31	8-10	Belmont	Burtions
	"	1-27	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	7-30	2-4	Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	12-14	2	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	28,31	8,3	Wales	Rosche
American Goldfinch	"	1	212	over Derby	Powers
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	1	5	Derby	Powers
	"	26	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	28	1	Spring Brook	Danner
Darkeyed Junco	"	30F	45	Alfred	Brooks
	"	31	97	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
*Field Sparrow	"	29F	1	Derby	Powers
	"	30	1	Alfred	Brooks
White-cr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1-2	Belmont	Burtions
Song Sparrow	"	13F-31	1-10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	22	8	Wales	Rosche
	"	26	15	Derby	Powers

Volume 47, Number 4-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.....	109
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue.....	19
Total for the year.....	128

Editor's Note: In an effort to bring the Prothonotary up to date as quickly and efficiently as possible, the next few issues will be of the "bare bones" variety, containing the Month, Noteworthy Records and Count reports.

Please bear with us just a little while longer. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated. The May issue is now being typed and the June issue will soon follow.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

March 28, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Ed Williams will be the compiler for the April 12th Count.

Tom Harper will be the compiler for the May 17th count.

New Business

We are invited to the Buffalo Audubon Society meeting on April 1st.

Bob Brock passed out some new material for the Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

Bob Klips gave a talk on Alexander Wilson.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen E. Rehning

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, November 8: Chautauqua Lake. Meet at 8:00a.m. at the Seneca Mall near Hengerer's for car-pooling. Leader: Fran Rew (822-0342)

Volume 47, Number 4-"Field Trips"(con't.)

Sunday, November 5: "Gulls etc....." Joint venture with the Genesee Ornithological Society. G.O.S. Leader: Gordon Meade (1-248-2032_ Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Old Fort Niagara.

PROGRAM: DINNER MEETING

Friday, November 6 Dinner meeting at Romanello's Prime Rib; Transit and Sheridan Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 7:30 p.m. (Note: This meeting replaces the regular October 28, Wednesday meeting.) There will be regular Wednesday meetings at the Museum on November 11 and December 9.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1695 East Quaker Rd.
Orchard Park, NY. 14127

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN

LIBRARY

ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

NUMBER 5

DEC 02 1981

VOLUME 47

MAY 1981

THE MONTH

The weather in April was seasonal with a series of cold fronts interrupting the flow of warm Gulf air and serving to keep the migration of warblers and other passerines well south of our study area until the last week of the month. The average temperature for the month was 47.2°(F) , 2.3° above average for the period. There was no measurable snow cover in the vicinity of Buffalo during April and precipitation measured 3.09 inches, a departure of 0.06 inches from the norm. The high temperature for the month was 78°(F) recorded on April 4th before a cold front sent temperatures tumbling the following day. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of weather fluctuations, the migration in April was most rewarding for those observers afield. During the first weekend, an estimated 38,000 Canada Geese were seen in the wetlands in the Oak Orchard area east of Buffalo. Great Egrets were seen at Buckhorn Island State Park and at the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area as well as at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The first shorebird migration of the spring was reported during the first week of April, commencing on the first day of the month when Greater Yellowlegs were seen at the Riverside Marsh near Jamestown. On April 4th, a flock of twenty Pectoral Sandpipers was seen flying over Buffalo, the forerunner of a huge incursion of these birds on the following day when a flock estimated at 275 birds was reported in the Town of Lockport, 251 at Kent Switch in Chautauqua County, 450 at South Dayton in Cattaraugus County, 400 in the Town of Pembroke in Genesee County and 100 in the Town of Boston. On April 17th, 600 Pectoral Sandpipers were among shorebirds at the sewage lagoons at Smithville in Lincoln County, Ontario.

The first Broad-winged Hawk of the spring migration was seen flying over

Sinking Ponds in East Aurora on April 11th, but no major flight of this species was recorded in our study area until April 26th when Frances Rew counted 1061 of these birds inland from the Lake Erie shore at Westfield in Chautauqua County. Meteorological conditions in western New York in April did not favor the spectacular flights of this species which bird-watchers eagerly await at this season. Just west of our study area at the hawk lookout at Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario, Walter Klabunde reported a total of 11,237 raptors passing over during April. This total includes 6,599 Broad-wings with big flights on April 19th, 27th and 26th. One adult Golden Eagle and a Sandhill Crane were seen at Beamer Point during April, but no Bald Eagles were reported. Two Bald Eagle, both immature birds, were seen at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge during April, and single migrating eagles were reported by David Powers at Derby on April 14th and 22nd, with two on the 29th. A presumptive Golden Eagle was seen over Lakeside Cemetery in Hamburg on April 26th.

The outstanding ornithological find of the month was a male Painted Bunting which made its appearance at a feeder on Henley Street in the city of Olean in Cattaraugus County during the last week of April, and it was still reported from that location at month's end. Other interesting records for the month include a total of 72 Black-crowned Night Herons counted at the nesting colony at Niagara Falls on April 20th. The female Harlequin duck which wintered at Fort Erie continued to be seen in the Niagara River there until April 10th. Three Purple Sandpipers reported from Three Sisters Island at Niagara Falls during April are presumed to be wintering birds. A rare small northern race of the Canada Goose, presumably Branta canadensis hutchinsii was seen in a flooded field on Owens Road on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on April 7th. A flock of eleven wild turkey was observed on North Davis Road in the Town of Elma on April 9th as the range increase of this bird into southern Erie County continues.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
- F - Indicates first record for the migration
- L - Indicates last record for the migration
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station

Volume 47, Number 5-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> April	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Common Loon	4F,15	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	6	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	6	3	Cuba	Pitzricks
	16,22	7,5	Derby	Powers
Red-necked Grebe	19	1	Town of Yates	Andrle et al
Horned Grebe	5	46	Town of Amherst (LaSalle Lake, SUNYAB)	McKales
	5	4	Oakfield	Seamans
	6	33	Cuba Lake	Pitzrick
Great Blue Heron	29	38	Over Derby	Powers
*Green Heron	27F	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	30	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Cattle Egret	15	3	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Prusa
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	4	10	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	9	2	Buffalo	Rew
	13	3	Derby	Powers
	20	72	Niagara Falls, Ont.	McKales
*Great Egret	4	1	Buckhorn Is. St. Pk.	Andrle et al
	5	1	Tonawanda WMA	McKales
	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
*American Bittern	11 F	2	Derby	Powers
	22	1	Tonawanda MMA	Morse
Whistling Swan	5	103	Oak Orchard WMA	McKales
	9	280	over Derby	Powers
Canada Goose	9	8240	Derby	Powers
	10	26,310	Iroquois NWR	Morse
(Maximum counts for the month)				
Snow Goose	5	11	Iroquois NWR	McKales
(8 blue, 3 white morph)				
Northern Shoveler	5	2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Harlequin Duck	2,4,8	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
White-w. Scoter	9	14	Derby	Powers
	25	13	Cassadaga Lake	Rew
Ruddy Duck	177	2	Amherst	McKales
	27	7	Derby	Powers
Red-br. Merganser	1	6000	Derby	Powers
Turkey Vulture	1	145	over Derby	Powers
	26	63	Westfield	Rew
Goshawk	26	1	Westfield	Rew
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	91	over Derby	Powers
	26	35	Westfield	Rew
Cooper's Hawk	1-24	1	Spring Brook	Danner
	11,30	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	22,26	1,1	Amity	Pitzrick
	25	1	Amherst	McKales
	26	2	Westfield	Rew

Volume 47, Number 5-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	April			
Red-tailed Hawk	1	55	over Derby	Powers
	26 ^F	37	Westfield	Rew
Red-should. Hawk	1	19	over Derby.	Powers
*Broad-wing. Hawk	11 ^F	1	East Aurora	Andrle, Byron
	15	2	Allegheny Reservoir	Elderkin
	26	1061	Westfield	Rew
Rough-leg. Hawk	23	1	Derby	Powers
Bald Eagle	7,9	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	(both immature birds)			
	14,22,29	1,1,2	over Derby	Powers
Marsh Hawk	26	3	Westfield	Rew
*Osprey	5 ^F -30	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	8	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	17-30	1	Amity	Burtons
	19	6	over Derby	Powers
	26	1	Westfield	Rew
	30	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
American Kestrel	1	48	over Derby	Powers
Sora	15	1	Town of Pembroke	Seamans
American Coot	1	12	Derby	Powers
Turkey	7	11	Spring Brook	Danner
	10	7	Elma	Danner
Spotted Sandpiper	16,28	1,1	Wales	Rosche
	18	1	Amherst	McKales
*Solitary Sandpiper	29 ^F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Greater Yellowlegs	1 ^F	1	Riverside	Elderkin
	4	1	Buffalo Harbor	Andrle, Foster
	5	9	Town of Newstead	McKales
	5	20	Kent Switch	Rew
Lesser Yellowlegs	3	1	Dunkirk	Rew
Purple Sandpiper	20	3	Niagara Falls	McKales
Pectoral Sandpiper	4	30	over Buffalo	Andrle et al
	5	30	Town of Marilla	Andrle, Foster
	5	275	Lockport	McKales
	5	36	Town of Newstead	McKales
	5	251	Kent Switch	Rew
	5	450	South Dayton	Rew
	8	400	Town of Pembroke	Seamans
	11	100	Town of Boston	O'Dell
*Dunlin	8 ^F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
Bonaparte's Gull	3	700	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*Common Tern	5 ^F	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	12	6	Derby	Powers
Caspian Tern	28	7	Derby	Powers
*Black Tern	28 ^F	1	Derby	Powers
	29	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Short-eared Owl	19	2	Town of Yates	Andrle et al
*Whip-poor-will	23 ^F	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Volume 47, Number 5-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	April			
Chimney Swift	29	16	over Derby	Powers
	29	6	Amity	Burtons
	29	2	Jamestown	Elderkin
	30	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Ruby-t. Hummingbird	30F	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	19	1	Town of Yates	Andrle et al
Red-headed Wdpkr.	1	3	Derby	Powers
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	9	2	Derby	Powers
	9	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	9	1	Eggertsville	McKales
*Eastern Kingbird	30F	2	Frewsburg	Elderkin
*Least Flycatcher	29F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Tree Swallow	1-30	15-26	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rough-w. Swallow	19	2	Town of Yates	Andrle et al
	19F, 22, 23	3, 1, 2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	21	10	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Barn Swallow	6F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Richardson
	12	1	Town of Langford	O'Dell
	22	83	over Derby	Powers
*Cliff Swallow	19F	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	20	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Purple Martin	4F	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	4F	2	Randolph	Elderkin
*House Wren	20F-29	1-2	Spring Brook	Danner
	22	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Winter Wren	15	1	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
	18	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
	18	1	Hamburg	O'Dell
Common Crow	1	316	over Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	1	12	Derby	Powers
	1-29	1-2	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
Gray Catbird	30	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Brown Thrasher	3	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	9	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron
American Robin	1	666	Derby	Powers
Hermit Thrush	7F	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	18	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
Eastern Bluebird	1-30	1-4	Alfred	Brooks
	1-30	2-16	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	15	2	Angela	Burtons
	30	2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	30	2	Frewsburg	Elderkin
Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher	28	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
*Ruby-cr. Kinglet	7F	18	Derby	Powers
	9	3	Alfred	Klingensmith
	9	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron

Volume 47, Number 5-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	April			
*Water Pipit	5F	16	Kent Switch	Rew
*Solitary Vireo	13F-29	1-2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	27,30	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	28	1	Wales	Rosche
*Bl.&w. Warbler	28F	1	Wales	Rosche
	28F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	29	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
	29	1	Lewiston	Klabundes
*Blue-w. Warbler	28F	2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Nashville Warbler	29F	2	Derby	Powers
	29F	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
	30	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Yellow Warbler	38F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	28F,29,30	1,3,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	29	1	Wales	Rosche
*Yellow-r. Warbler	10F	1	Kent Switch	Rew
	18	2	Town of Amherst	McKales
	18-30	1-26	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Black-thr. Gr. Warbler	18F	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
	24,29	1,5	Alfred	Klingensmith
	24,28	1,2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Blackburnian Warbler	28F	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	29	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	29	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	28F	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Pine Warbler	25	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
	27	1	Iroquois NWR	Scharader
	27	1	Bond Lake Park	Klabundes
*Palm Warbler	29F	3	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Northern Waterthrush	26F	2	Wales	Rosche
*Louisiana Waterthrush	25F	2	Shale Creek	O'Dell
*Common Yellowthroat	27F	1	Grand Island	Danners
Red-w. Blackbird	1	8240	over Derby	Powers
*Northern Oriole	29F	2	Amity	Burtens
	29F,30	2,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rusty Blackbird	4	6	Tonawanda Ind.Res.	Morse
	12	4	Iroquois NWR	Seamans
	30F	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	1	2800	over Derby	Powers
Evening Grosbeak	1	612	over Derby	Powers
	1-30	15-30	Belmont	Burtens
	1-30	2-24	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	6,25	50,20	Wales	Rosche
	30	5	Alfred	Klingensmith

Volume 47, Number 5-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	April			
House Finch	1,7,30	1,1,2	Alfred	Brooks
	1-30	10-18	Belmont	Burtons
	1-30	12-28	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	1-30	2-8	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	1-30	12-15	Eggertsville	Hulls
	1-30	1-5	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	1-30	2-6	Lewiston	Klabundes
	2,9,30	2,2,2	Wellsville	Pitzrikk
	3,25	1,2	Wales	Rosche
Pine Grosbeak	3	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Pine Siskin	1,3,4	1,1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	1-30	6-8	Belmont	Burtons
	1-30	1-8	Jamestown (f)	Elderkin
	3	12	Derby	Powers
	3-23	1-2	Lewiston	Klabundes
	6-30	1-4	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	7	5	Wales	Rosche
	12-14	3	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
American Goldfinch	12	680	over Derby	Powers
White-w. Crossbill	14	14	Batavia (f)	Seamans
*Savannah Sparrow	4F	4F	Alfred	Klingensmith
	7,8,13	1,4,6	Wales	Rosche
Tree Sparrow	30L	1	Belmont	Burtons
*Vesper Sparrow	5F	2	Town of Marilla	Andrle, Foster
	5F	1	Stockton	Rew
	7	1	Eggertsville	McKales
*Chipping Sparrow	9F-30	1-5	Alfred	Brooks
White-cr. Sparrow	22F	10	Derby	Powers
White-cr. Sparrow	28	2	Town of Batavia	Seamans
	29	1	Amity A	Burtons
	29	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
White-thr. Sparrow	18	2	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
White-thr. Sparrow	22-25	13	Elma	Forsberg
*Fox Sparrow	9F	2	Derby	Powers
*Fox Sparrow	9F	3	Alfred	Klingensmith
Swamp Sparrow	4	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Swamp Sparrow	27	2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.....128

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue..... 54

Total for year.....182

FIFTY _ YEAR MEMBERS HONORED

At the April 8 meeting of the B.O.S. two members were presented plaques in honor of their fifty-year membership: Harold Mitchell, a charter member, and Alice Ulrich, who became a member three months after the Society was organized.

Speaking for the Society, Marie Wendling made the presentation address. "I have been asked by the Board of Directors to make a presentation that should have been made two years ago at a still elusive fiftieth anniversary banquet. Two of our members have been active in our Society's affairs for over fifty years—Harold Mitchell and Alice Ulrich.

Harold was the moving spirit (as he so often was to become) in the organization of this Society in November 1929. He was its first president as well as its fourth president. Early he conceived the idea of a monthly publication, writing most of it himself, getting it typed and run off and then mailing it himself. The first issue appeared in March 1932.

Not long afterwards he and Clark Beardslee decided that the study of birds in this area should culminate in the publication of a book on the ornithology of the Niagara Frontier. This meant collecting all the old records, searching out and interviewing the older ornithologists of the area, establishing three, and later five, bird counts of the year, encouraging Society members to send in their sightings to accumulate the data needed, and even having to judge the accuracy of the reports.

It was a blow when Beardslee died in 1954, but Harold went on with the co-operation of the Society. It was slow work, and I remember how we used to kid him about the book's failure to come out on the dates that had been projected. It became a standard joke in the PROFANETARY, the humorous take-off on the PROTHONOTARY, which appeared regularly at every fifth-year banquet. But all joking was silenced when in 1965 the book, BIRDS OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, was issued. Here was the definitive book, presenting the whole account, past and present, of the birds of the region.

Meanwhile he took time off to resurrect the moribund Audubon Society, which had had a lively start in the early years of this century but had declined to off to a new and very active life in the space of two years as president, and later he served as president of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs, in the organization of which he was one of the leading spirits.

Harold was also the first to teach a course in ornithology at the Museum. I was a pupil in that first class, and I used to think he had a kind of magic in the way he could always find the birds on those first wonderful field trips. As a teacher he was superb. His patience with the novices was infinite. We each had to see every bird before the class could move on. Since that was the day before the Bausch and Lomb telescopes, to actually see the bird through the old scope was a real challenge. It is interesting to note that one of his young birders was the teen-age Roger Tory Peterson.

Later when he and Mildred moved to Williamsville, we (my sister and I) felt it to be a distinct honor to come to meetings with him and later still to bring him ourselves. He is widely known. Once when we signed in the visitors'

book at the Bear River Sanctuary in Utah, the naturalist in charge said, "You must know Harold Mitchell, "and a nearby group, among whom was Olin Sewall Pettingill, come over to inquire about him.

Now as we look back to see what has taken place in the ninety years of an active and creative life, we realize that Harold Mitchell has become for us what is vouchsafed to few people in this world, a living legend in his own time.

Among us tonight is another distinguished member, who missed becoming a charter member by a few months - a fact she deeply regrets. From the beginning Alice Sherman Ulrich was a tireless birder. A graduate of Syracuse and Cornell in science and a teacher of biology in Buffalo high schools, she came to the Society an accomplished student of birds and wild flowers. I have been her pupil on many a field trip, for I made the mistake of majoring in literature and history, so I came cold and late to the study of birds.

Several years later Alice married another birder, Edward Ulrich, who also narrowly missed being a charter member. Together they made a formidable team for the identification and study of the birds of our region. They knew all the best places to look for them and found time to pursue them in all seasons. I remember when the Society used to gather after the May Bird Count at Schmidt's Fur Farm where we had been lent a cabin for our use. I remember standing in awe at the Ulrichs' expertise, and when they asked me to join them in going to the Rhododendron Woods I knew that I had arrived. (Where is the Rhododendron Woods now? Has it fallen to progress as have so many good birding places?)

Alice has served on every committee and on the Board many times. She became the first woman president of the Society in 1954, serving two terms. During the 1960's she and Edward edited The Kingbird for four years- a grueling job well-done.

She taught classes in ornithology at the Museum, and some of you who were her pupils are here tonight. She has been in every way a first-class citizen in our ornithological world. Blessed with practical common sense and a sureness about what is seemly and right, yet she has the drive to undertake new and sometimes difficult projects. Lately she has shown an indomitable spirit in the face of personal vicissitudes - several broken bones. In dauntless determination she has made a remarkable recovery.

I might add that she has won special honors outside the B.O.S. Active in Nature Conservancy, she has served on the Board of Governors of National Conservancy and been honored for her work on nature preserves with a plaque from the National Office of The Conservancy, and, in addition, was given an Oak Leaf decoration which is presented to only four or five persons per year for outstanding performance.

To honor these two able, dedicated and beloved members of our Society, the Board of Directors, acting for the Society, voted to present each a plaque which reflects the honor we wish to bestow upon them.

87 Garrison Road
Williamsville, New York 14221

COMMON TERN COLOUR-MARKING BY THE CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

During 1981, Dr. Hans Blokpoel of the Canadian Wildlife Service, colour-marked Common Terns at two large colonies in the Great Lakes area, with the objective of determining the year-round distribution of the birds, especially their migration routes and wintering areas in Latin America. Adult Common Terns were trapped on their nests at the Eastern Headland of the Toronto Outer Harbour (Lake Ontario) and at Tower Island (Niagara River). Orange plastic tags were attached to both wings of the trapped adult birds. In addition, young Common Terns were marked with pink plastic wing tags at those colonies. One standard metal leg band and one coloured plastic leg band (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) were put on each of the tagged birds.

If you see a Common Tern with a pink or orange wing tag please record the following details: place, date and colour of the tag. If possible, also record the combination of numbers and/or letters on the tag (the two tags on any bird have the same color and the same combination of letters and numbers) and note which legs the plastic and metal leg bands are on. Thank you very much for your assistance. All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to:

Bird Banding Office
Canadian Wildlife Service
Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA
K1A 0E7

CANADA GOOSE ROUNDUP

At this summer's annual goose drive, conducted by DEC's Regional Wildlife Bureau at the Oak Orchard Wildlife Area in Genesee County, staffers discovered what must be the granddaddy of local Canada Geese. "This goose had originally been banded in 1965, which makes him 16 years old," said a senior wildlife biologist. "This is quite unusual since the average life span of geese in this area is about three years." Previously the oldest living goose banded had been 10 years old. Roundup and banding takes place in early July when the geese are molting. "Unlike most waterfowl, geese lose all their primary wing feathers which leave them relatively vulnerable." The birds are herded from marshes into triangular pens, banded and then released. The banding process takes about two hours. The drive is carried out by regional staffers, representatives from the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge and local volunteers.

-Reprinted from N.Y. State Environment, August 24, 1981

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

April 8, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown,
The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Volume 47, Number 5-"Minutes"(con't.)

See Ed Williams for the April Count.

See Tom Harper for the May 17 count.

New Business

Is Dial-A-Bird going to stay with us, or should we have a newspaper column?
Brad will give our results to the Museum.

Bob Andrle would like help on the Breeding Bird Atlas.

Marie Wendling gave a brief biography on Harold Mitchell and on Alice Ulrich's years of dedicated service to the Society. Wavel Barber presented the Plaques honoring both of them for more than 50 years of Service. A standing ovation was given.

Fran Rew presented to Art Schaffner in appreciation of his services - a Citation Membership. A standing ovation was given.

Bob Brock spoke on John James Audubon.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Karen E. Renning

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

April 22, 1981

The meeting was opened by President Brad Lown.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

See Tom Harper for the May 17th Count.

Bob Brock passed out some more Breeding Bird Atlas materials.

Walter Klabunde reports 9,000 hawks were recorded at Grimsby Lookout.

From the (New York State) Department of Environmental Conservation:
Brant have been marked; please note color, date, time and place where seen.

Jim Snider, from the Department of Environmental Conservation, presented slides and a film on Wildfowl Identification.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.
Karen E. Renning

REPORT OF THE APRIL BIRD COUNT

Compiler: Edward A. Williams
Prepared by: Bradley A. Lown

Date: April 12, 1981

Weather: Temperatures ranged from the upper 30's through the low 50's Fahrenheit with most sections reporting a cloudy, windy day with scattered showers and some freezing rain. A raw, cold, wet day.

Numbers in parentheses following individual totals indicate where a species was reported from three or fewer sections. An underlined species indicates that an acceptable verification report has been received. An asterisk beside the species indicates first 1981 record in the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon	14	American Wigeon	182
Pied-necked Grebe	2 (4)	Northern Shoveler	6 (5,10)
Horned Grebe	129	Wood Duck	157
Pied-billed Grebe	1101	Redhead	38
D-cr. Cormorant	6 (20,23)	Ring-necked Duck	64
Gr. Blue Heron	124	Canvasback	240
Great Egret	1 (6)	Greater Scaup	535
American Bittern	4 (13,14,24)	Lesser Scaup	450
Whistling Swan	63	Common Goldeneye	383
Canada Goose	34,123	Bufflehead	537
Snow Goose	12 (4,10)	Oldsquaw	3039
Mallard	961	Harlequin Duck	1 (8)
Black Duck	58	White-w. Scoter	11 (4,14,26)
Gadwall	63	Ruddy Duck	2 (20,28)
Pintail	297	Hooded Merganser	65
Green-w. Teal	100	Common Merganser	508
Blue-w. Teal	229	Red-br. Merganser	7822

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture	98	Marsh Hawk	23
Sharp-sh. Hawk	28	Osprey	5
Cooper's Hawk	16	American Kestrel	166
Red-tailed Hawk	163	Ruffed Grouse	92
Red-should. Hawk	15	Ring necked Pheasant	61
Broad-wing. Hawk	2 (25)	Turkey	143
Rough-leg. Hawk	7	*Sora	1 (24)
Bald Eagle	1 (13)	American Coot	825

Shorebirds - Gulls

Killdeer	368	Dunlin	1 (24)
American Woodcock	43	Semipalmated Sandpiper	13 (13)
*Common Snipe	77	Glaucous Gull	3 (7,8,11)
Upland Sandpiper	1 (13)	Gr. Black-s. Gull	51
*Spotted Sandpiper	1 (17)	Herring Gull	11,464
Greater Yellowlegs	21	Ring-br. Gull	4650
Lesser Yellowlegs	19 (14,22,26)	Bonaparte's Gull	6099
Purple Sandpiper	3 (9)	Common Tern	17 (2,14,16)
Pectoral Sandpiper	946	*Caspian Tern	1 (19)

Doves - Flycatchers

Rock Dove	1728	Common Flicker	609
Mourning Dove	1116	Pileated Woodpecker	15
Screech Owl	4	Red-bellied Woodpecker	22
Great Horned Owl	26	Red-headed Woodpecker	5 (3,5,16)
*Barred Owl	6 (14,24,25)	Yellow-b. Sapsucker	22
Long-eared Owl	1 (15)	Hairy Woodpecker	98
*Chimney Swift	2 (12)	Downy Woodpecker	326
Belted Kingfisher	97	Eastern Phoebe	111

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark, subsp.	63	Tufted Titmouse	19
<u>E.a. alpestris</u>	60	White-br. Nuthatch	222
<u>E. a. praticola</u>	90	Red-br. Nuthatch	27
Tree Swallow	1381	Brown Creeper	102
*Bank Swallow	3 (16)	*Winter Wren	3 (6,8)
*Rough-w. Swallow	7 (18,20,22)	Mockingbird	2 (20,22)
Barn Swallow	14	*Gray Catbird	6 (14,15,24)
Purple Martin	36	Brown Thrasher	13
Blue Jay	834	American Robin	7336
Common Crow	2198	Hermit Thrush	4 (6,8,26)
Black-c. Chickadee	1570	Eastern Bluebird	64

Kinglets - Blackbirds

*Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	1 (26)	House Sparrow	3738
Golden-cr. Kinglet	221	Eastern Meadowlark	324
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	33	Red-w. Blackbird	17,526
Water Pipit	246	Rusty Blackbird	234
Cedar Waxwing	907	Common Grackler	16,197
Starling	18,768	Brown-h. Cowbird	2070
Yellow-r. Warbler	5 (19,22,23)		

Finches - Sparrows

Cardinal	662	Dark-eyed Junco	2578
Evening Grosbeak	1112	Tree Sparrow	144
Purple Finch	215	Chipping Sparrow	47
House Finch	264	Field Sparrow	94
Pine Siskin	202	*White-cr. Sparrow	26
American Goldfinch	1343	W. Z. B. gambelii	1
White-w. Crossbill	1 (4)	White-tr. Sparrow	265
Rufous-s. Towhee	29	Box Sparrow	14
Savannah Sparrow	79	Swamp Sparrow	63
*Grasshopper Sparrow	1 (1)	Song Sparrow	2001
Vesper Sparrow	23	Lapland Longspur	3 (4)

Volume 47, Number 5 -"April Count" (con't.)

Total species: 138
Total Individuals: 163,430
Total Observers: 206

Comments: The following species numbers were low for the last 10 years:
Black Duck (58), Redhead (39), Ring-necked Duck (64), Ruddy Duck (2), Killdeer (368), Winter Wren (3) and Mockingbird (2).

The following species numbers were high for the last 10 years:
Double-cr. Cormorant (6), American Bittern (4), Oldsquaw (3039), Bald Eagle (1), Ruffed Grouse (92), Turkey (143), Sora (1), American Coot (825), Spotted Sandpiper (1), Greater Yellowlegs (21), Purple Sandpiper (3), Pectoral Sandpiper (946), Dunlin (1), Semipalmated Sandpiper (13), Glaucous Gull (3), Herring Gull (11,464), Common Tern (17), Rock Dove (1728), Great Horned Owl (25), Barred Owl (6), Chimney Swift (2), Brown Creeper (102), Brown Thrasher (13), Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher (1), Ruby-cr. Kinglet (33), House Finch (264), Rufous-s. Towhee (29), Grasshopper Sparrow (1), Field Sparrow (94) and Swamp Sparrow (63).

Territories and observers (compilers are underlined).

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | Not covered |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Art Schaffner</u> |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Harriette and Walter Klabunde</u> |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock</u> , Robert Klips, Bonney Hornish |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Gail Seamans</u> |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Ed Williams</u> , W. Siegner, R. Stockton |
| 7. Lowbanks, Ont. | <u>Blayne Farnan</u> , Bob Farnan, Gary Novosel, Mr. and Mrs. White |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Michael Zebehzay</u> , Robert Andriele, Marcya Foster, Joseph Thill, John Thill. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Karen Renning</u> , John and Mary Wright. |
| 10. Akron, N.Y. | <u>Richard Christenson</u> , William Townsend |
| 11. Buffalo, NY | <u>Peggy Daniels</u> , Julia Wells, Robert and Pauline Schwartz, Lillian Schaffner, Rosemary Daniels. |

12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Tina Bill, Fred and Dorothy Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Emmet and Wanda Sweet, Gertrude Webster.
13. Batavia, N.Y. Robert and Eileen Hull, David Keller, George Mahoney
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Marion Dornhaffer, Audrey Horbett, Barbara Walker, Dave Bigelow, Barbara Howard, Bob and Everdina Mauser, Jane Wilson, Jane Horder, Dorothea Duttweidler, Elsie Webb, John Ball, Dorothy Barber, Ann Sexton, Grace O'Dell
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogecki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Ray Hein, Art Rosche, Olga Rosche
16. Angola, N.Y. David B. Powers
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Peter Hall, M.F. O'Leary, Stratton Rawson.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don and Jane Clark
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Mrs. Katherine Palmer; Belfast: Margaret E. Kaufman, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Canaseraga, NY.: Mrs. Faye Clancy, Caneadea, NY.: Mrs. Emma Burr, Harland Hale, Fillmore, NY: Mrs. Helen Morse, Mrs. Jean Perry, Mrs. David Richardson, Mr. & Mrs. Emmette Smith, Larry Wilson, Houghton, NY.: Mrs. Ruth Boon, Dr. Victor Carpenter, Andrew Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. M. Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. A.B. Taylor, Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Wilson, Hume, NY.: Miss Ruth Gilman, Wellsville, NY: Miss Joann Palmer
20. Silver Creek, NY. Frances M. Rew, Lois I. Buck
21. Cherry Creek, NY. Jamestown Audubon Society. Robert Sundell, Otto and Gretchen Carlson, Calla and Jennie Freeman, Frances Lapinski, Dorothy Philblad, Mary Ann Reiber, Carol Roby.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society Robert Sundell, Flora Elderkin, Robert Price

23. Frewsburg, NY.

Jamestown Audubon Aociety, Robert Sundell, Martha Brown, Flora Elderkin, David Cogne, Frank Gerdnca, Henry Huston, Stephen Maggi Tom Simmons, Tom Simmons, Jr., Carol Wagne

24. Allegany S.P., NY.

Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Mary and John Forness, Tim Baird, Bill Forness,

25. Allegany, NY.

Catteraugus County Bird Club, Mary and John Forness, Dorothy Baker, Dr. S.W. Eato Charles and Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Carol Johnson, Rudolph and Edith Schratt, Regina and James Van Scoy.

26. Cuba, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Ann and Morris Scott, Sharon Baumgardner, John and Betty Sue Compton, Dustin Fleming, Sylvia Foster, Margaret Hand, Alfred Voorhies.

27. Boliver, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Blub, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Emma and Donald King, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Richmond, Lillian and Stella Simons, Clestia Abbott, Arnold Watkins, The James Hooker Family, Frances De Groff, Mrs. Gordon Senford, Helen Apsey Dolly Hawkins, Helen Link.

28. Alfred, NY.

Allegany County Bird Club. Larry Chapman, Dorothy Bayless, Vivian Pitzrick, Emma Lar Alfred, NY.: Dorothy & Warren Bouch, Betsy Brooks, Rev. & Mrs. Glenn Bucher, Vivien Carr, Lois Chapman, Carla Coch, Ann Eishen Eva Ford, Reed VanKaynor, Barbara Keough, Clarence & Margaret Klingensmith, Cathy MacDonald, Beverly Perry, Peggy & Danny Ra Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Mary Fran Soulis, Tom & Harriet Spleth, Suzanne Wood, R Almond, NY.: Russell Allen, Don, Lorna, Lonja & Tara Brink, Ruby Carpenter, Ann Catlin, Jim & Susan Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Louise & Jay Gibson, Linn Phel Andover, NY.: Wisner Cook, Kathy & Tom Ken Ken & Marion McClure, Jim Ninos, Connor Stephens, Mrs. Alan Tuttle, William Walker Belmont, NY.: Ruth & Clifford Button, Matt Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Scio, NY.: Vera Brown, Grace Buckley, Roberta Clark, Ruth, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Mary Alice & Paul Fuller, Genevieve McQueen, Pat Pratt, Ona, Douglas & David Reynolds, Lynn Rositz Burnadean Stein, Lorena & Theodore Vossler Wellsville, NY: Mr/Mrs Carl Burdick, Christ Ferrand, Helen Graves, Mrs Robert Sick, Mr Bruce Taggart, Mrs. Gordon Taggart

Note from the President:

Committee reorganization planning will take place at 7:30, December 9th onehalf hour before the regular meeting begins. Everyone is urged to attend and get involved.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

November 11~~th~~ "Breeding Bird Atlas Workshop. Robert F. Andrle and othe B.O.S. "Atlasers" after two seasons New York State Breeding Birds Atlas project is "out of the nest and flying!". This meeting will feature an update and over all progress report by the Regional Co-ordinator as well as highlights, hints and anecdotes by local participants in this five-year state wide endeavor that documents the occurrence of Breeding Birds.

December 9 - There will be a discussion regarding B.O.S. meeting only once a month as opposed to twice a month.

"Flight of the Snow Goose". A color film will be shown highlighting the courtship and nesting of Snow Geese on their arctic breeding ground and follows them in their spectacular southward journey to their gulf coast wintering area.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, December 13 - Niagara River. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 8:15 at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian side. Leaders Wavel and Maxine Barber Tel.: 683-3061.

Sunday, December 20 - Annual Christmas Count centered on Grand Island, Compiler Bill Bogacki 674-5781. Call him to get your favorite territor

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

DEC 16 1981

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

JUNE 1981

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

May began on a pleasant note with sunny and warm weather characterizing the first week of the month. (John Morse, Biologist at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge noted that of 20,000 migrant Canadian Geese present at the refuge on May 1st, most had gone by the third day of the month.) There followed a period of unsettled cool weather persisting until May 22nd when temperatures again were above normal until turning cooler following a heavy rain on May 30th. The average temperature for the month was 56.4°(F) , 1.3° above the norm. A high temperature of 82°(F) for the period was recorded on May 24th. Rainfall measured 2.56 inches, a departure of -0.41 inches from the norm. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

It was the consensus of most field observers that May was an excellent month for migration. Especially large flights of warblers and other passerines were noted on the nights of May 4th and May 15th. In spite of this, few rarities were reported. A Yellow-throated Warbler was reported seen in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo on May 1st but no verifying write-up was received by the compiler or the statisticians. On that date, also, a hypothetical Swainson's Hawk was reported from the Town of Aurora. The numbers of both Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes seen during the spring migration were reported low. It was also a good year for shorebird migration. Art Schaffner and Art Clark reported two sizeable flocks of Dunlin on Donnelly's Pier and the Stony Point Dike disposal site in Buffalo Harbor on May 22nd, and Harold Axtell counted 280 birds in one flock of Semipalmated Sandpipers and 70 Sanderlings at Rock Point Provincial Park in the Town of Sherbrooke in Ontario on May 31st - possibly a one day spring maximum for our study area. Two female Wilson's Phalaropes were reported at the Smithville, Ontario sewage ponds on the society's May bird count. A White-eyed Vireo was reported by Don and Jane Clark at Farmersville Station in Cattaraugus County on that count.

A late hawk migration was witnessed by Robert Andrie and Marcy Foster on May 25th when they counted 72 Broad-winged Hawks and an Osprey flying over the

Town of Orchard Park. Most of the Broad-wings were immature birds. David Powers reported a Merlin, a rare migrant raptor in these climes in spring, apparently seeing the bird on three occasions between May 3rd and May 14th, always in the same tree near the Piarist Fathers Retreat House on the Lake Shore Road in the Town of Evans.

Other interesting records for the month include a Sandhill Crane seen by Robert Brock as it flew north between the Lake Ontario shore and N.Y. Route #18 in the Town of Somerset in Niagara County on May 17th. The bird, with its unmistakable cruciform body and wing configuration, so characteristic of the gruids in flight, was seen by Brock as close as 200 yards. Olga Rosche observed a flock of twenty Pine Grosbeaks in a hemlock woods south of Fish Hill Road in the Town of Wales on May 17th, including six to eight male birds. On May 19th, Elizabeth Brooks was nest hunting in a 65 acre Scotch Pine plantation at the junction of Lake Road and Elm Valley Road in the Town of Alfred when she heard the unmistakable croaking of a raven, looking up, she saw a Common Raven flying in a southeasterly direction. It was a large Black Corvid with a wedge-shaped tail being chased by crows which were noticeably smaller than their victim. The male Painted Bunting first reported in these pages in April continued to be seen at a feeder on Henley Street in Olean during the first week of May. Finally a male Lawrence's Warbler, the rare hybrid of the Golden-winged Warbler (Vermivora Chrysoptera) and the Blue-winged Warbler (V. pinus), was discovered singing and apparently on territory in a Hawthorn bush in an overgrown pasture in the Town of Holland, by Pam Amey on May 28th. This is very likely the individual found the previous year by Esther Becker in the same location. It appears that the bird was paired with a female Blue-winged Warbler and engaged in nest building.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
- F - Indicates first record for the migration
- L - Indicates last record for the migration
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station

Volume 47, Number 6-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	May			
Common Loon	1	8	Derby	Powers
	11	4	Cuba Lake	Pitzricks
	22	1	Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
	23	1	Mohawk Bay, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	25	1	over Orchard Park	Andrle
D.-crest. Cormorant	23	15	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner
	18	8	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Great Egret	31	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Great Blue Heron	1	51	over Derby	Powers
	9	6	Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	1	2	Derby	Powers
Whistling Swan	8	14	over Derby	Powers
Canada Goose	1	20,000	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	3-12	218	over Derby	Powers
Gadwall	23	4	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Schaffner, Clark
	23	33	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	31	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Oldsquaw	31	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Harlequin Duck	7	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	10	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
Turkey Vulture	25	2	over Orchard Park	Andrle
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	45	over Derby	Powers
	1	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	7,19,21	1,1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	9	117	over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Cooper's Hawk	1	5	over Derby	Powers
	4	1	Amity	Pitzrick
	9-31	1-2	Alfred	Brooks
Broad-wing. Hawk	1	310	over Derby	Powers
	25	72	over Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
Rough-leg. Hawk	2-5	3	over Derby	Powers
Bald Eagle	7	1	Derby	Powers
Osprey	2,5	1,1	Town of Amity	Burtens, Jordan
	3	1	Town of Allen	Burtens
	5	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	9	2	Wainfleet, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	16,30	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	25	1	over Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
Virginia Rail	18	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Semipalm. Plover	18	2	Town of Amherst	McKales
	31	3	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
*Black-bell. Plover	21F	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
	31	1	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	31	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Ruddy Turnstone	24	12	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills
	31	40	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell

Volume 47, Number 6-"Noteworthy Records"(con't,)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	May			
*Whimbrel	23F	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Schaffner, Clark
	23F	1	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	24	23	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills
	31	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Upland Sandpiper	31	1	Clarence	McKales
*Red Knot	31F	3	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
*W.-rump. Sandpiper	18F	2	Town of Amherst	McKales
	31	4	RockPoint Prov.Pk.	Axtell
*Least Sandpiper	15F	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	18	14	Amherst	McKales
Dunlin	22	104	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	23	115	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	31	55	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Short-b. Dowitcher	23	2	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
*Semipalm Sandpiper	22F	50	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	31	14	Tonawanda WMA	McKales
	31	280	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
*Sanderling	14F	2	Derby	Powers
	31	90	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Glaucous Gull	1	1	Buckhorn Is. St.Pk.	Wrights
	13	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
Caspian Tern	1	14	Derby	Powers
	23	4	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	29	3	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	28	2	Derby	Powers
Black-b. Cuckoo	18-30	1-2	Alfred	Brooks
	18-31	1-3	Amity	Pitzricks
Short-eared Owl	25	2	Wainfleet Bog, Ont.	Andrle et al
Whip-poor-will	1	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	25	4	Wainfleet Bog, Ont.	Andrle et al
Common Nighthawk	25	1	Alfred	Brooks
	30	1	Derby	Powers
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	4	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Eastern Kingbird	1	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
	1	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Gr. Crest. Flycatcher	1F-31	1-4	Amity	Pitzrick
	2	2	Town of Amherst	McKales
*Yellow-b. Flycatch.	24F	1	Cheektowaga	McKales et al
*Acadian Flycatcher	28	1	Eggertsville	McKales
*Willow Flycatcher	15F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	25	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
Least Flycatcher	1-31	1-12	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	1	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
Alder Flycatcher	20-31	1-10	Amity	Pitzrick
	23	3	Derby	Powers
*E. Wood Pewee	9F-31	1-10	Amity	Pitzrick
	15	3	Derby	Powers
	14			

Volume 47, Number 6-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	May			
Olive-s. Flycatcher	24	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills
	24	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Blue Jay	1	3800	over Derby	Powers
*Common Raven	19	1	Alfred	Brooks
Tufted Titmouse	1	8	Derby	Powers
	1-31	1-2	Elma	Danner
*Long-b. Marsh Wren	7F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	17	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
Mockingbird	14	1	Derby	Powers
	18	1	Alfred	Brooks
	20	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Wood Thrush	4F	3	Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
	5-31	3-4	Elma	Danner
*Swainson's Thrush	2F	1	Fonthill, Ont.	O'Dell
	17	3	Iroquois NWR	Morse, Richardson
Gray-ch. Thrush	23	3	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
*Veery	4F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	7	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Eastern Bluebird	1-31	22	Amity	Pitzricks
	1, 4, 13, 17	2, 6, 1, 1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	10	9	Derby	Powers
Water Pipit	2	1	Langford	McKales
Cedar Waxwing	9, 22	190, 138	Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
*Loggerhead Shrike	10	1	Derby	Powers
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	2	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	O'Dell
*White-eyed Vireo	8	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	9F	1	Iroquois NWR	Richardson
	10	1	Derby	Powers
*Red-eyed Vireo	9F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	10	3	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
*Philadelphia Vireo	9F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
	22	1	Derby	Powers
	24E	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk	Thills
*Warbling Vireo	1F	1	Buckhorn Is.St.Pk.	Wrights
	3	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Prothonotary Warbler	19F	2	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Golden-w. Warbler	10F	1	Abino Hills, Ont.	Andrle et al
	21	1	Amity	Pitzrick
Blue-w. Warbler	1	1	Town of Amity	Burtens
*Brewster's Warbler	8	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Lawrence's Warbler	29, 31	1	Town of Holland	Andrle, et al
*Tennessee Warbler	4F	1	Eggertsville	McKales
	9	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
*Orange-cr. Warbler	14F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Schaffner
*Northern Parula	9F, 14	1, 2	Tifft Farm N.P.	Schaffner
	9F	1	Delaware Pk., Bflo.	Schaffner, Clark
	10	1	Forest Lawn, Bflo.	Thills

Volume 47, Number 6--"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	May			
*Magnolia Warbler	1F	1	Buckhorn Is.St.Pk.	Wrights
	3	8	Derby	Powers
*Cape May Warbler	5F	1	Cheektowaga	Schaffner, Schwart
	5F	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler	3F	1	Iroquois NWR	Swanson
	9,18	1,1	Amity	Pitzrick
*Cerulean Warbler	14F	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Chestnut-s. Warbler	2	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Bay-br. Warbler	7F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	7F-24	2-5	Spring Brook	Danner
	9	1	Tifft Farm N.D.	Schaffner
*Blackpoll Warbler	15F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	15F	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
	22	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Pine Warbler	2	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
*Prairie Warbler	8	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
*Prairie Warbler	9F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
	18,29	1-3	Alfred	Brooks
	23,30	2,4	Amity	Pitzrick
*Palm Warbler	1F	2	Alfred	Klingensmith
W. Waterthrush	2	1	Town of Amherst	McKales
W. Waterthrush	8	1	Derby	Powers
*Ovenbird	1F-31	1-6	Amity	Pitzrick
Nor. Waterthrush	5	3	Alfred	Klingensmith
Nor. Waterthrush	5,13	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Mourning Warbler	22	1	Alfred	Brooks
Common Yellowthroat	27	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Common Yellowthroat	1-31	1-4	Belmont	Burtons
Hooded Warbler	20	1	Alfred	Brooks
	15F	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	24	4	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills
*Canada Warbler	8F-20	4	Derby	Powers
	20	1	Amity	Pitzrick
*Amer. Redstart	20	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
*Amer. Redstart	1F-31	1-5	Amity	Pitzrick
Bobolink	5	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Bobolink Blackbird	4	3	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Red-w. Blackbird	9	791	over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Northern Oriole	4-31	4-8	Spring Brook	Danner
	4	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Rusty Blackbird	1	10	Derby	Powers
	14	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
*Scarlet Tanager	4F	1	Elma	Forsberg
	4F	3	Buffalo	O'Dell
	4F	3	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	5	1	Cheektowaga	Schaffner, Schwartz
	5	1	Wheatville	Richardson
Rose-br. Grosbeak	4F	3	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	5	28	Derby	Powers
	5-31	3-9	Spring Brook	Danner

Volume 47, Number 47 "Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
*Indigo Bunting	10F-31	1-6	Amity	Pitzrick
	10F	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
	11	8	Buffalo	O'Dell
*Painted Bunting	1	1	Olean	Eaton
Evening Grosbeak	1-31	1-15	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	1-9	1-4	Alfred	Brooks
	1-10	12-15	Belmont	Burtens
	4,13	8,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	5	14	Cheektowaga	Schaffner, Schwartz
House Finch	1-31	1-3	Buffalo	Schaffner
	1-31	8-12	Eggertsville	McKales
	1-31	8-16	Belmont	Burtens
	1-31	7-12	Eggertsville	Hulls
	1-31	2	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	9	2	Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
	18,24	2,3	Alfred	Brooks
	22-31	1-2	Buffalo	Schaffner, Clark
	26	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Pine Siskin	1-30	1-7	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	1	19	Derby	Powers
	1-27	1-30	Belmont	Burtens
	1-22	3-16	Eggertsville	Hulls
American Goldfinch	9	526	over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Grasshopper Sparrow	25	2	Amity	Pitzrick
*Henslow's Sparrow	4F,17	1,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	9-31	1-3	Alfred	Brooks
Tree Sparrow	3L	1	Belmont	Burtens
Fox Sparrow	2	1	Derby	Powers
Lincoln's Sparrow	24	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.....182

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue...(including 17 on May Count)63

Total for year.....245

May Bird Count 1981
Date May 17, 1981

Compiled by Tom Harper
903 Broadway, Darien Center,
N.Y. 14040

Weather: Cool, frost in the a.m., high 40's low 50's o.m. Winds were mostly northwest 5-10 m.p.h. Sunny most of the day.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. An asterisk indicates first 1981 record for the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon	5 (13,21,25)	Pintail	3 (2,10)
Pied-billed Grebe	6	Green-w. Teal	2 (5)
D.-crest. Cormorant	8 (7,10)	Blue-w. Teal	66
Gr. Blue Heron	191	Amer. Wigeon	5 (5,10,26)
Green Heron	52	Northern Shoveler	2 (10)
Great Egret	1 (5)	Wood Duck	133
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	1 (7)	Redhead	2 (1,11)
Amer. Bittern	9	Canvasback	1 (13)
Whistling Swan	1 (5)	Greater Scaup	9 (4,27)
Canada Goose	474	Bufflehead	19
Mallard	610	Hooded Merganser	7 (5,15,18)
Black Duck	9 (5,8,25)	Common Merganser	9
Gadwall	10 (5,10)	Red-br. Merganser	64

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture	95	American Kestrel	82
Goshawk	1 (28)	Unidentified Hawks	2
Sharp-sh. Hawk	15	Ruffed Grouse	82
Cooper's Hawk	6 (13,19,28)	Ring-n. Pheasant	65
Red-tailed Hawk	167	Turkey	24
Red-should. Hawk	13	*Sandhill Crane	1 (4)
Broad-winged Hawk	29	*Virginia Rail	2 (12,23)
Marsh Hawk	12	Sora	8
Osprey	9	*Common Gallinule	4 (7,13,26)
		American Coot	10

Shorebirds

*Semipalm Plover	37 (1,2)	Lesser Yellowlegs	14
Killdeer	418	Pectoral Sandpiper	5 (1)
American Woodcock	32	Least Sandpiper	27
Common Snipe	26	Dunlin	354
*Upland Sandpiper	11 (6,12,3)	Short-b. Dowitcher	7 (2)
Spotted Sandpiper	139	Sanderling	200 (2)
Solitary Sandpiper	38	*Ruddy Turnstone	10 (6,7,8)
Greater Yellowlegs	23 (2,13,20)		

Jaegers - Flycatchers

Glaucous Gull	2 (6,8)	Mourning Dove	1204
Gr. Black-b. Gull	6 (7,8,16)	*Yellow-b. Cuckoo	1 (8)
Herring Gull	427	*Black-b. Cuckoo	7
Ring-b. Gull	9,266	Screech Owl	1
Bonaparte's Gull	13	Gr. Horned Owl	20
Unidentified Gulls	2,000+	Barred Owl	9
Common Tern	35	Long-eared Owl	1 (13)
Caspian Tern	8	Whip-poor-will	1 (21)
Black Tern	34	*Common Nighthawk	6
Rock Dove	1299	Chimney Swift	384

Jaegers - Flycatchers (con't.)

Ruby-t. Hummingbird	56	Eastern Kingbird	300
Belted Kingfisher	87	Gr. Crested Flycatcher	136
Common Flicker	308	Eastern Phoebe	171
Pileated Woodpecker	10	Willow Flycatcher	6 (13,22,23)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	20	*Alder Flycatcher	3 (22,28)
Red-headed Woodpecker	28	Least Flycatcher	127
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	11	E. Wood Pewee	15
Hairy Woodpecker	78	*Olive-s. Flycatcher	2 (6,19)
Downy Woodpecker	256	Unidentified Flycatchers	4

Lark - Thrushes

Horned Lark (<u>E. praticola</u>)	48	House Wren	300
Tree Swallow	1492	Carolina Wren	1 (21)
Bank Swallow	1132	Long-b. Marsh Wren	7
Rough-w. Swallow	109	Mockingbird	4 (3,28)
Barn Swallow	2464	Gray Catbird	735
Cliff Swallow	85	Brown Thrasher	106
Purple Martin	703	American Robin	4,950
Blue Jay	940	Wood Thrush	287
Common Crow	1343	Hermit Thrush	10
Black-c. Chickadee	910	Swainson's Thrush	35
Tufted Titmouse	5	*Gray-ch. Thrush	10 (6,15)
White-br. Nuthatch	175	Veery	120
Red-br. Nuthatch	64	Eastern Bluebird	110
Brown Creeper	15		

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	12	Cape May Warbler	98
Golden-cr. Kinglet	13 (5,13,28)	Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	30
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	18 (4,13,19)	Yellow-r. Warbler	598
Water Pipit	5 (4,5)	Bl.-thr. Green Warbler	134
Cedar Waxwing	245	Cerulean Warbler	6 (24,25)
Sterling	4548	Blackburn. Warbler	91
White-eyed Vireo	1 (18)	Chestnut-s. Warbler	176
Yellow-thr. Vireo	3 (13,19,24)	Bay-br. Warbler	72
Solitary Vireo	22	Blackpoll Warbler	2 (7,22)
Red-eyed Vireo	134	Prairie Warbler	12 (28)
Philadelphia Vireo	5	Palm Warbler	14
Warbling Vireo	83	Ovenbird	136
Bl.-&w. Warbler	36	Nor. Waterthrush	29
Golden-w. Warbler	7	La. Waterthrush	11 (23,25,28)
Blue-w. Warbler	95	*Mourning Warbler	21
"Brewsters Warbler	3 (5,12,22)	Common Yellowthroat	584
Tennessee Warbler	121	*Yellow-br. Chat	1 (24)
Nashville Warbler	87	*Hooded Warbler	5
Northern Parula	2 (7,22)	Wilson's Warbler	16
Yellow Warbler	1293	Canada Warbler	35
Magnolia Warbler	134	Amer. Redstart	176
		House Sparrow	3230

Blackbirds - Finches

Bobolink	1081	Amer. Goldfinch	2418
E. Meadowlark	271	Rufous-s. Towhee	227
Red-w. Blackbird	7652	Savannah Sparrow	200
Northern Oriole	751	Grasshopper Sparrow	2 (20,22)
Rusty Blackbird	3 (6,12)	Henslow's Sparrow	8
Common Grackle	5047	Vesper Sparrow	9
Brown-h. Cowbird	1225	Dark-eyed Junco	103
Scarlet Tanager	127	<u>Tree Sparrow</u>	1 (28)
Cardinal	558	Chipping Sparrow	874
Rose-br. Grosbeak	557	Field Sparrow	271
Indigo Bunting	93	Wh.-cr. Sparrow	289
Evening Grosbeak	90	Wh.-thr. Sparrow	206
Purple Finch	262	Fox Sparrow	3 (25)
House Finch	230	*Lincoln's Sparrow	4
<u>Pine Grosbeak</u>	20 (15)	Swamp Sparrow	91
Pine Siskin	282	Song Sparrow	1935

Total Species: 197

Total Individuals: 73,393

Comments: Green Heron 52 (lowest since 1962), Mallard 610 (highest ever), Green-w. Teal 2(low 10 year comparison), Wood Duck 133(second highest ever), Sharp-sh. Hawk 15(highest since 1948), Ruffed Grouse 82 (highest ever), Sandhill Crane 1 (first-time), Common Gallinule 4 (second lowest ever), Dunlin 354 (10 year high), Sanderling 200 (highest ever, 2nd high 30 in 1952), Glaucous Gull 2 (highest ever), Herring Gull 427 (10 year high), Ring-b. Gull 9,266 (second highest ever), Bonaparte Gull 13 (lowest since 1962), Common Tern 35 (lowest ever, 2nd lowest 130 in 1976), Rock Dove 1299 (highest ever), Yellow-b. Cuckoo 1 (tied with 1971, 1978 for low), Black-b. Cuckoo 7 (lowest since 1966), E. Wood Pewee 15 (lowest since 1966), Bank Swallow 1132 (10 year high), Purple Martin 703 (lowest since 1957), Yellow-thr. Vireo 3 (2nd lowest), Yellow-r. Warbler 598 (10 year high), Cerulean Warbler 6 (10 year low), Blackpoll Warbler 2 (tied with 1977, 10 year low) Prairie Warbler 12 (highest ever, 2nd high 6 in 1980), Ovenbird 136 (10 year low), House Finch 230 (highest ever, 2nd high 124 in 1980), Pine Siskin 282 (10 year high), Vesper Sparrow 9 (lowest ever)

Sections and Observers

The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined. Total Observers 282

1. Fonthill, Ont. Drew Campbell
2. Thorold, Ont. Gary Novosel
3. Wilson, N.Y. Walter Klabunde, Harriette Klabunde

4. Middleport, N.Y. Robert Brock.
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. John Morse, Scott Richards, Odmund Olsen,
Gail Seamans
6. Port Maitland, Ont. Ed Williams, Wes Siegner
7. Lowbank, Ont. Art Schaffner, Art Clark, Mary Clark
8. Fort Erie, Ont. Michael Zebehazy
9. Grand Island, N.Y. Karen Renning, Stanley King, John and Margaret
Wright
10. Akron, N.Y. Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Pauline & Bob Schwartz, Kenneth Balmas,
Bradley Lown, Marie Wendling, Ima Bill,
Bill Burch, Mrs. Schaffner
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Wavel Bauer, Ima Bill, Dorothy
and Fred Danner, Maxine Barber, Gorden
Batcheller, Anna Bauer, Karen Geiger,
Tom Harper, Rhett Harper, Cig Wolfling,
Bernadine Wolfling
13. Batavia, N.Y. Max & Jane Mason. George Mahaney, David
Keller, Don Thurau, Dave Thompson, Bob &
Eileen Hull, Elva Hawken, Edith Dorpfeld,
Margery Pixley.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Peter & Lois Matlock
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Alan Baczkiewiz, Esther Becker,
Marion Beer, Robert Dessert, David Junkin,
Hans Kunze, Olga Rosche
16. Angola, N.Y. Audrey Horbett, Carolyn Frank
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. David Bigelow, Matilda Bigelow
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark, Cattaraugus County Bird Clu
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Blub, Katherine Palmer,
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Fish, Josephine Main,
Marjorie Main, Helen Morse, Mr. & Mrs. Fred
Parmenter, Jean Perry, Lowell Smith, Victor
Carpenter, Andrew Mallen, James Mullen,
Rev. L.K. Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wilson.

Volume 47, Number 6—"Sections & Observers"(con't.)

20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Morgan Jones, Allen Benton, Bunting, Mosher Ravsa, Sander.
21. Cherry Creek Jamestown Audubon Society Robert Sundell, Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Beatrice and Irene Eckberg, Marilyn Erickson, Walter Erlandson Calla Freeman, Jennie Freeman, A.T. Johnson Barbara Johnson, Harold Johnson, Frances Lapinski, James Lee, Mrs. Rueben Mazer, Lloyd Miller, Dorothy Pihlblad, Katherine Ponton, Archie Richardson, Carol Roby, Peg Scribner, Carol Wagner
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society Robert Sundell, David Cooney Jr., Flora Elderkin, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Robert Price
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society Robert Sundell, Paul Baglia, Martha Brown, David Gagne, Fra Gardner, Stephen Maggion, Elizabeth Pillsbu Archie Richardson, Margaret Scott, Mary Sha Tom Simmons, Tom Simmons Jr., Rose Mary Wil
24. Allegany St. Pk. N.Y. Mary Forness, Tim Baird
25. Allegany, N.Y. Mary Forness, John Forness, Francis & Donna Gluck, Carol Johnson, Rosamond & Carl Seagr Steve Eaton, Regina. & James Van Scoy, Alen Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. C.C. Green, Helen Munso Addie Collins, Esther Herron, Dorothy Baker Tim Baird.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Bruce & Bob Smalle Ann & Morris Scott, Sharon Baumgardner, Bet & John Compton, Sylvia Foster, Margaret Han Alfred Voorhies
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Emma King, Mr. & Mrs. Rober Richmond, Lillian & Stella Simons, Arnold Watkins, Betty Hooker, Celestia Abbott, Sharon Baumgardner, Dustin Fleming, Frances DeGroff, Margaret & Joe Nickerson, Helen Apsey, Christine Ferrand, Erma Larson.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club Dorothy Bayless, Lorry Chapman, Vivian Pitzrick, (con't.)

28. Alfred, N.Y. (con't.)

Alfred Area: Dorothy & Warren Bouck, Elizabeth Brooks, Vivein Carr, Lois Chapman, Carla Coc Larry & Harriet Deverell, Ann, Pete & Jamie Eisenhardt, Peter & Terry Finlay, Reed Van Kaynor, Barbara Keough, Clarence Klingensmit Cathy MacDonald, Beverly Perry, Peggy & Dann Rase, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Suzanne Wood.
Almond area: Russell Allen, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Sonja & Tara Brink Jim Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Phyllis DuBrievl, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Linn Phelan, Violet Sherrett, Lauren & Maureen Soule,
Andover area: Bea Common, Wisner, Cook, Kathy & Tom Kent, Ken & Marion McClure, Jim Ninos Connor Stephens, Mrs Alan Tuttle, William Walker, & Clifford Button,
Belmont, Ruth & Clifford Button, Roberta Clark, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Doris & Lou Burton
Scio: Vera Brown, Grace Buckley, Evelyn Coat Mary Alice & Paul Fuller, Claribel James, Pat & Joseph Pratt, Lynn Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Lorena & Ted Vossler, Kari Young.
Wellsville: Myrtle Brown, Carl & Betty Burdick, Christine Ferrand, Helen Graves, Erma Larson, Ritz Sick, Wilma & Bruce Taggar Wilma & Gordon Taggart.

NOTES

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake
Belmont, NY. 14813

Prairie Warblers Back — Three Successive Years

On May 23, 1981, at about 6:45 a.m. in a young Scotch Pine plantation on Reddy Rd., Amity Twp., near Belmont, N.Y., about 2 miles north of Amity Lake, a buzzy song that ascended in separate notes steadily up the chromatic scale, dying at the top, was repeated several times during the next half hour. Recognizing the song immediately as that of a Prairie Warbler, I didn't try to hunt the bird down to see it. About an hour later in a young Norway Spruce plantation about a quarter of a mile east of this location, a second bird was singing the same buzzy song.

These were not Grasshopper Sparrows whose song is all on one tone, following an introductory note. The Blue-winged Warbler's song is a two-note "Whee-zee", the second note lower, -- slow and drawn out. The Golden-winged Warbler sings "zee-zoo'zoo'zoo", the last three notes on a lower tone than the first. A Field Sparrow's song lacks the dry buzzy quality, begins slowly and speeds up as it continues and may rise or fall in pitch. The Black-throated Blue Warblers's song is a slow "chur-chur-chur", on one tone, and then ends with a climbing buzzy "zree".

Having seen and heard the Prairie Warbler in this same area during the past three summer seasons, as well as earlier this month, and having discovered an active nest at the eastern site last summer, I have no reservations in calling these singers male Prairie Warblers.

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
May 25, 1981

A Golden-winged Warbler Nest Record in Allegany County

While hiking on May 22, 1981, at 9:50 a.m. on a deciduous woods near Amity Lake, about five miles north of Scio, I came out into a small swampy meadow opening with tall Black Willows on one side and smaller willows, sumacs and alders completing a circle around it. Nearby is a small brook. With 7 x 50 binoculars and bright sun at my back, I saw a Chestnut-sided Warbler that was singing at the edge of the clearing and nearby was another bird of the same size and with a tiny "needle" bill -- another warbler. However, the second bird had a gray back and plain unstreaked off-white breast, but outstanding was the bright yellow forehead and broad yellow wing bar. It showed a rich black throat patch and a fairly wide black line extending from the bill back through the eye. A third bird joined the second and was marked like the latter but was gray around face and throat where a species with which I have been familiar for several years. During previous breeding seasons I have seen the species involved in courtship behavior and have watched an adult feeding young out of the nest but I had never located their nest.

The pair of "Golden-wings" paid little attention to me as I "froze" when first spotting the male. Soon the female took some dry grass in her bill to a spot among low raspberry bushes. There the male joined her and they moved here and there in the low vegetation, in active warbler fashion. I stood quietly and watched them make two more trips into the same area but failed to localize a definite nesting spot. Suddenly, after about fifteen minutes, I must have revealed myself and both birds disappeared. They were peculiarly quiet all the time, though sometimes I thought I heard a few soft chips.

Carefully I walked along a deer trail from which I peeked over into a dead grass clump. There was the nest: about two inches in diameter on the inside and about three inches deep. Not lingering at the site, I only estimate that it was about three inches up from the ground. The sides were woven around upright raspberry stalks which are beginning to leaf out.

As I left the area, I saw the female nearby about two feet up in a clump of Gray-barked Dogwood. She must have been watching me.

Today, May 25, after rinsing my boots, hands and arms and rubbing slack legs with a solution of water and a bit of Methyl Salicylate, hoping to mask human scent with the wintergreen fragrance, I revisited the nest to find one tiny white egg, with a few pin points of brown sparsely sprinkled on it, -- and a Brown-headed Cowbird egg -- in the nest which seemed to lack the fine soft lining usually expected in a completed nest. No adults were in evidence.

New to the Audubon Blue List this year, the Golden-winged Warbler breeds from the hills of Georgia north into Delaware and Massachusetts, and west through southeastern Ontario to central Minnesota and south to Iowa and northern Indiana. It winters in Central America. Where habitats overlap, as here in Allegany County, this species may hybridize with the Blue-winged Warbler, producing "Brewster's" or, less often, "Lawrence's" Warbler.

In Birds of New York State by Bull, the species is noted as "rare to uncommon upstate, but increasing," with a map, page 471, showing distribution during the breeding season up to 1971 with evidence based for the most part on banding and specimens. Here I consider them uncommon -- not more than three per day in this locality where during nesting season it often sings its buzzy song, a "zee-zoo-zoo-zoo-zoo", the first note followed by three or four on a lower tone. Occasionally a Blue-winged Warbler as well as a "Brewster's" may make this call too.

According to A Field Guide to the Nests, Eggs and Nestlings of North American Birds by Colin Harrison (a superb reference), there is little known of the nestlings of the Golden-winged Warbler but the four to seven eggs, incubated by the female, hatch in ten to eleven days and the young fledge at ten days.

Having searched ever so diligently without success all these many nesting seasons for a Blue-wing's nest, it is nothing short of a miracle to have discovered the rarer Golden-wing's! It is almost with awe and reverence that I await the outcome. -- At least prayer can't hurt.

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake, Belmont, NY. 14813
May 25, 1981

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

December 9 - There will be a discussion regarding B.O.S. meeting only once a month as opposed to twice a month.

"Flight of the Snow Goose" Color film will be shown which highlights the courtship and nesting of Snow Geese on their arctic breeding ground and follows them in their spectacular southward journey to their gulf coast wintering area.

PROGRAM FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, December 13 - Niagara River. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont & Busti or 8:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on the Canadian Side.
Leaders: Wavel & Maxine Barber Tel 683-3061.

Sunday, December 20- Annual Christmas Count centered on Grand Island, Compiler Bill Bogacki 674-5781. Call him to get your favorite territory.

Volume 47, Number 6

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Dr., Buffalo, N.Y. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty centers per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN

LIBRARIAN

ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

VOLUME 47

JULY 1981

JAN 14 1982

NUMBER 7

THE MONTH

June was a cloudy and warm month although there was a period of unseasonably cool weather between the 22nd and the 28th days. The average temperature for the month was 66.2° (F), 0.5° above the norm while rainfall measured 3.60 inches, 1.45 inches above normal with heaviest precipitation in thunderstorms on June 22nd and June 30th. There were only three days in June totally free of cloud cover. The high temperature of the month, 86° (F) recorded on both June 15th and June 30th, was also the highest recorded in the Buffalo area during the summer of 1981. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport).

In spite of the end of the spring migration, June was an interesting month afield. Three Great Egrets were in residence at Cayuga Pool at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge throughout the month and were seen by many observers. In the course of a breeding bird survey in the Wolf Run area of Allegany State Park near the reservoir, Richard Clark of Pennsylvania saw a sub-adult Bald Eagle perched in a maple tree while an adult eagle of this species was flying a short distance away to the south. These birds are presumed to be the same pair reported regularly on the Allegheny Reservoir between Warren, Pa. and the Quaker Bridge area of the State Park. Prairie Warblers were reported by Vivian Pitzrick from previously documented sites in the Town of Amity in Allegany County. Also in Allegany County, Elizabeth Brooks found territorial males of this species at all of last season's nesting sites as well as one new location in a meadow adjacent to a conifer plantation on the McAndrew Road in the town of Alfred. On June 13th, singing male Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen by Robert Andrie and his party at McCarty Hill near Ellicottville and at Red House in Allegany State Park. The male Lawrence's Warbler, first reported from an over-grown pasture behind St. Joseph's Cemetery on N.Y. Route #16 in the Town of Holland in May, attracted many bird-watchers to that location in June. The bird appeared to be mated with a female Blue-winged Warbler and on June 27th, it was observed by Robert Andrie and other members of his party feeding three fledged young birds in a hawthorne bush in the pasture. It is the first breeding record for this species in Erie County.

New summer records for the Golden-crowned Kinglet in western New York include two adult birds seen by Robert Andrle and others in a mature stand of pine and spruce trees in the Swift Hill State Forest in the Town of Centerville in Allegany County on June 27th and three kinglets observed by Richard Clark in the canopy of a Red Pine plantation in the Quaker Bridge area of Allegany State Park on June 28th. One bird was seen to feed another of the trio and Dr. Clark presume the latter was a fledged young out-of-nest being fed by an adult.

Vivian Pitzrick reports two more breeding season records for the White-throated Sparrow in Allegany County. The distinctive song of this species was heard by Mrs. Pitzrick and her husband at the edge of a maple-beech woods in the Town of Alma on June 17th; the bird itself was not seen. One to two Reddy Road near Amity Lake on several occasions during June although no nest could be located. Frances Rew found three and possible four singing male White-throated Sparrows in the slashing of a cut-over Red Pine plantation in the state forest preserve on Boutwell Hill Road in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County. Three or four White-throated Sparrows were also reported in a boggy area bordering a small lake in the Town of Holland in Erie County in June. On June 23rd, Elizabeth Brooks located a singing male Clay-colored Sparrow in a grove of White Spruce trees on Moland Road in the Town of Alfred. The bird was seen several times during the rest of the month but observers were unable to locate either a female bird or a nest.

Other interesting birds seen in June include two Prothonotary Warblers at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. On June 11th, five Whistling Swans were reported flying over the Niagara River at Lewiston, a very late date for migrants of this species. On June 13th an Orchard Oriole was reported from North Boston and two American Wigeons, an uncommon breeding species in our study area, were seen at Buckhorn Island State Park at the north end of Grand Island.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
- F - Indicates first record for the migration
- L - Indicates last record for the migration
- (f) - Indicates record from reeding station

Volume 47, Number 7-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	June			
Common Loon	1-10	3	Derby	Powers
D.-crest. Cormorant	1,4	1,2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Great Egret	10	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	28	3	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	1	2	Derby	Powers
	5	3	West Falls	McKales
Gadwall	4	31	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Amer. Wigeon	17	4	Times Beach	Andrle et al.
Common Merganser	22	5	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Red-br. Merganser	22	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	16	over Derby	Powers
	11,12,25,27	1,1,1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	22	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
Cooper's Hawk	2	1	Alfred	Brooks
	5	1	Derby	Powers
	14	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
	25	1	Darien	Harper
Red-tailed Hawk	1	8	over Derby	Powers
Bald Eagle	12	1	over Derby	Powers
	27	2	Allegheny State Pk.	R.Clark
Ruddy Turnstone	4L	14	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
W.-rump. Sandpiper	1,4L	5,1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Sanderling	4L	9	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Caspian Tern	1	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
	3	2	Derby	Powers
*Barn Owl	1	1	Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	1	4	Derby	Powers
American Robin	1	178	Derby	Powers
Golden-cr. Kinglet	3-30	1-4	Alfred	Brooks
	27	2	Town of Centerville	Andrle et al
	28	3	Allegheny State Pk.	R. Clark
Prothonotary Warbler	6	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	14	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Lawrence's Warbler	27	1	Town of Holland	Andrle et al
Tennessee Warbler	2L	1	Eggertsville	McKales
Nashville Warbler	1-30	1-3	Amity	Pitzrick
	1-30	1-4	Alfred	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	1-30	1-10	Alfred	Brooks
	12,25	1,1	Amity	Pitzrick
	13	1	McCarty Hill	Andrle et al
	13	1	Red House	Andrle et al
Prairie Warbler	5-25	1-3	Amity	Pitzrick
House Finch	1-30	2-8	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	1-30	1-6	Alfred	Brooks
	1-30	8-14	Eggertsville	McKales
Dark-eyed Junch	20	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
*Clay-col. Sparrow	23	1	Alfred	Brooks

Volume 47, Number 7 - "Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	June			
White-thr. Sparrow	1-30	2	Derby	Powers
	<u>5,12</u>	1,1	Amity	Pitzrick
	<u>17</u>	1	Alma	Pitzrick
	<u>19</u>	2	Amity	Pitzrick
	<u>26,27</u>	3,4	Town of Charlotte	Rew et al

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.246

Species, subspecies and hybrids record this issue..... 2

Total for year.....248

Following are changes in species totals -

March - Yellow-b. Spasucker: records should have asterisk *
New species for Month = 20 Total = 129

April - New species for Month = 55 Total= 184
(includes 42 in Noteworthy Records + 13 on April

May - New species for Month = 62 Total = 246
(includes 45 in Noteworthy Records = 17 on count)

Errata in The Prothonotary

April Noteworthy Records May 1981

Rust Blackbird April 30F 1 Town of Amity Pitzrick
should read

* Bobolink April 30F 1 Town of Amity Pitzrick

Rusty Black April 1 2800 over Derby Powers
should read

Common Grackle April 1 2800 over Derby Powers
and line after that
should read

Brown-h. Cowbird April 1 612 over Derby Powers

NOTES

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake, Belmont, NY. 14813
Allegany County

Post Script for Prairie Warblers on Reddy Road

Having previously heard the Prairie Warblers singing this year in the conifer plantations on Reddy Road, Amity Twp., near Belmont, NY., about two miles north of Amity Lake, again on May 30, 1981, I was back on the territory and heard

the buzzy song that climbed in distinct separate notes the chromatic scale, dying at the top. Hoping to find another nest this year as I did last year, I followed the singer up a hill for some distance but realized I was being just led on and on and so sat down to wait. Soon the singer returned and I was able to see him in the tip of a ten-foot Norway Spruce. With the sun at my back and using 7 x 50 binoculars I noted that the singer had yellow breast and throat, the yellow extending well back of the legs where it met a white area under the tail. There were streaks of black just below the wings on each side. The wing bars were white. It was about the same size, with the same needle-like bill, as a Yellow-rumped Warbler near by. Around the eye was a yellow patch and two black lines, one extending along the cheek. Then I noticed a second bird with the same markings but in subdued tones. It didn't sing but was joined by the singer at times. I hoped to find them, evidently a male and female, nest building in the same small open space in the conifer plantation.

Giving up on trying to locate their nest, I started back down the hill to where another male was singing and there another pair, marked like the first two, were foraging — but, as far as I could tell, not nest building.

These were not Blue-winged Warblers as the top of the head was olive, not yellow and the Blue-wing has no black markings on the breast. The Blue-wing's song is "Whee-zee"— not a chromatic scale like this bird's. These birds were not Magnolia or Canada Warblers as the black streaks on the breast was confined to the sides and did not extend across it.

These four birds were Prairie Warblers, a species which has frequented this area for at least the past three nesting seasons.

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
June 1, 1981

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

January 13, 1982 and January 27, 1982 - Information in next issue.

PROGRAM - COUNT

December 20 - B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count centered on Grand Island. Compiler Bill Bogacki

Other Christmas Bird Counts

December 26 - Buffalo Audubon Society - CBC - centered in Chustnut Ridge Park. Compiler Bill Burch

Volume 47, Number 7 - "Christmas Count"(con't.)

December 12 - Buffalo Audubon Society - CBC - centered at Beaver Meadow.
Compiler David Junkin

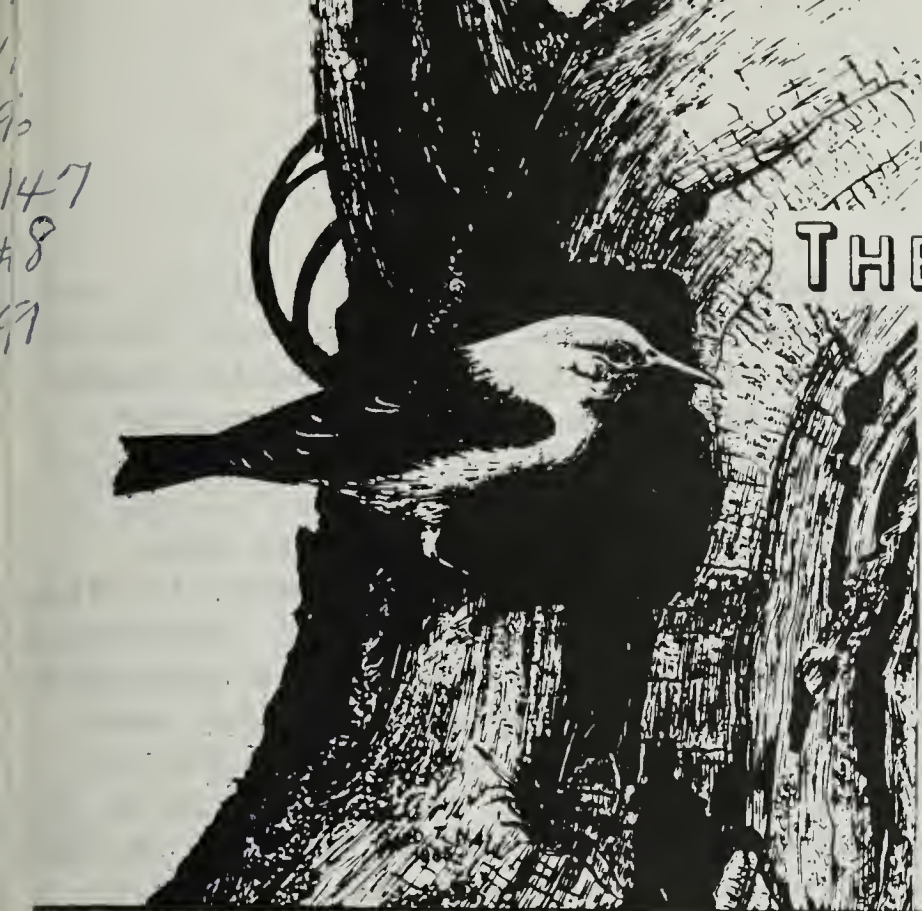
Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at
18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park,
New York 14127



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

AUGUST 1981

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

NUMBER 8

FEB 07 1982

THE MONTH

With the exception of two days of unseasonably cool weather on the 22nd and the 23rd, July was a warm and humid month. The average temperature for the month was 71.8°(F) , 1.7° above the norm for the period with a high reading of 86°(F) recorded on July 19th. Precipitation measured 5.05 inches, 2.12 inches above normal with heavy downpours on July 18th and 20th and an all day rain on the 28th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport).

At this time in the bird-watcher's year in the Buffalo area, a good portion of the time afield is spent observing the returning shorebirds along the north shore of Lake Erie and other waterways. On July 3rd at the diked disposal site of the small boat harbor on Fuhrmann Boulevard in Buffalo, Art Schaffner and Art Clark observed the earliest Stilt Sandpiper ever recorded in the migration of this species in our study area. Most observers, however, concentrated their efforts at the cannery ponds at St. David's, Ontario, where, in spite of considerably lower water levels, large flocks of sandpipers and other shorebirds were present all month. Most of the birds observed were Semi-palmated Sandpipers with good numbers of Least Sandpipers and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs and at least three Wilson's Phalaropes also present. On July 17th, Art Schaffner and Harold Axtell were among several observers who saw an adult male Ruff, still in breeding plumage, at the cannery ponds. Of interest is Harold Axtell's report of a Western Sandpiper which he saw at this location July 17th and on July 19th. The bird, in advanced post-nuptial moult, contrasted sharply with the hundreds of Semi-palmated Sandpipers also present, most of which were still in their breeding plumage. In discussing this bird with Kevin McLaughlin of the Hamilton (Ont.) Field Naturalists Club, Dr. Axtell was convinced that it was the same individual that Mr. McLaughlin and other observers saw at Rock Point Provincial Park on July 25th. A record count of between 2700 and 300 Semi-palmated Sandpipers was made at St. David's on July 27th.

In addition to the shorebirds, Art Schaffner reported both a Pintail and six Green-winged Teal at the cannery ponds during the month. Schaffner and Frances Rew saw five feral Canada Geese on a pond in the Village of Cherry Creek in Chautauqu County on July 25th. On July 3rd, Schaffner and Art Clark reported a summering Lesser Scaup at Times Beach on the Buffalo waterfront.

An ambitious project was inaugurated at the state Oak Orchard Game Management Area in Genesee County on July 20th with the arrival of 21 recently fledged Bald Eagles from Alaska. The birds were placed in specially constructed compartments atop seven utility poles along Stafford's Pond on the Albion Road in the management area where they were fed mechanically with fish and other staples until they were able to fly and hopefully fend for themselves gradually being weaned from the food supply provided for them at the man-made aerie. The object of the project is to repeat the success of the five year pilot hacking project at the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge near Geneva, N.Y. where 21 eagles were raised and at least two remained in the state and successfully produced two young in a nest near Watertown in 1980. It is anticipated that the fledged eagles will wander while immature but hopefully will return to the Oak Orchard area and attempt to nest upon reaching maturity.

Interesting records in July include an adult Little Gull in breeding plumage seen by Robert Andrle and others at Rock Point Provincial Park on July 17th. On July 4th, Andrle and his party visited the Erie County Forest Preserve on Middle Road in the Town of Sardinia where an adult male Yellow-rumped Warbler was seen in an evergreen plantation. Vivian Pitzrick reports observing five adult Yellow-rumped Warblers in the Town of Amity in Allegany County on July 15th including one feeding a cowbird in the nest. Mrs. Pitzrick also reported two adult Prairie Warblers with four nestlings from a pine plantation on Reddy Road in the Town of Amity. The young fledged on July 15th, 11 days after the last date for this species reported by John Bull in Birds of New York State (1974).

On July 17th, a single Pine Siskin was seen at a feeder on East Church Street in the Village of Eden, presumably the same bird seen at that location during June. Within a week, a breeding record for this species was reported from East Aurora where two adults were observed feeding recently fledged young. Elizabeth Brooks discovered a male Red Crossbill in a spruce plantation on Elm Valley Road in the Town of Alfred in Allegany County on July 5th. A second male Red Crossbill was seen in a spruce plantation on Moland Road in that town on July 31st. On July 10th, Mrs. Brooks also discovered a second adult male Clay-colored Sparrow in an evergreen plantation on Jones Road in the Town of Andover in Allegany County, approximately five miles south of the location on Moland Road in the Town of Alfred where an adult male of this species was seen in June; no female bird or a nest could be located. An adult White-throated Sparrow was seen by Art Schaffner and Frances Rew in a cut-over clearing in the state forest land in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County on July 25th. It was the same location where Fran had seen several white-throats in June. Finally, a Swainson's Thrush appeared at the residence of Harold Axtell on the Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie on July 29th. The bird, believed to be a post-breeding wanderer, remained until the end of the month.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date: Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year

F - Indicates first record for the migration

L - Indicates last record for the migration

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> July	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Canada Goose	25	5	Cherry Creek	Schaffner, Rew
Pintail	17	1	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Green-w. Teal	31	6	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Lesser Scaup	3	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Schaffner, Clark
Common Merganser	1	2	Derby	Powers
<u>Goshawk</u>	4	2	Sardinia	Andrle et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	3	Derby	Powers
	15	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	27	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Cooper's Hawk	1-31	4	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	20	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
Killdeer	17	101	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Common Snipe	17	1	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Solitary Sandpiper	17F	1	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner
Greater Yellowlegs	14F	1	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	17	2	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Lesser Yellowlegs	1F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	17	244	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
	31	200	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Pectoral Sandpiper	17F	34	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Least Sandpiper	3F	1	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	7	2	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
	17	11	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Short-b. Dowitcher	1F	2	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	14	2	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	17	18	St. David's, Ont.,	Schaffner et al
*Stilt Sandpiper	3F	1	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	17	8	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Semipalm. Sandpiper	3F	1	Buffalo Harbor	Schaffner, Clark
	17	382	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
*Western Sandpiper	17, 19	1, 1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
*Ruff	16, 17, 19	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
	17	1	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	July			
Sanderling	17F	2	Rock Point Prov.Park	Andrle et al
*Wilson's Phalarope	19F	2	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
	26-31	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell et al
Bonaparte's Gull	1	89	Derby	Powers
	3	8	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
*Little Gull	17	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
Caspian Tern	17	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
	28	1	Buffalo Harbor	Andrle, Foster
Barn Owl	1	1	Derby	Powers
Red-bellied Wdpr.	10	3	Whitesville	Brooks
Common Crow	1	108	Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	1	2	Derby	Powers
Mockingbird	31	2	St. David's, Ont.	Schaffner et al
Swainson's Thrush	29-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Golden-cr. Kinglet	3, 11	2, 1	Town of Alfred	Brooks
	(previously documented breeding site)			
Nashville Warbler	15, 17	2, 2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Yellow-r. Warbler	1, 15	2, 5	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	1-31	2-40	Town of Alfred	Brooks
	(previously documented breeding sites)			
	4	1	Sardinia	Andrle et al
Prairie Warbler	1	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	1-31	10-14	Town of Alfred	Brooks
	15	6	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	(previously documented breeding sites)			
Yellow-br. Chat	23, 27	2, 1	Town of Newstead	McKales
House Finch	1-31	4-7	Town of Amity (f)	Pitzrick
	1-31	1-8	Alfred	Brooks
Red Crossbill	5, 31	1, 1	Town of Alfred	Brooks
(Clay-col. Sparrow)	1, 8, 15	1	Alfred	Brooks
	10	1	Town of Andover	Brooks, Chapman
White-thr. Sparrow	1-30	1	Derby	Powers
	15, 22	1, 1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	25	1	Town of Charlotte	Schaffner et al

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.....248

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue 5

Total for year.....253

NOTES

Spring Hawk Migration - South Shore Lake Ontario 1981

Walter Klabunde

Both lookouts following the eastward hawk migration flight took advantage of the early mild weather and started their regular coverage 15 Feb. Thus Braddock Bay covered their lookout for 136 consecutive days - rain or shine, for a total of 664 hours, while Derby Hill amassed a total of 1029 hours of observation in 92 days

between 15 Feb. and 3 June. This was done by manning both of their lookouts for 35 days. Grimsby and Vinemount, following the west flight maintained their normal schedules between 1 Mar. through 31 May. Because of better scheduling and less foul weather the Grimsby lookout was covered 85 days for 585 hours while Vinemount operated 23 days for 117 hours.

The east flight, although disappointing in totals for the major species, came up with a spectacular early flight of Roughlegs. The west flight also recorded some low totals, but made up for them with Broadwings which put the total count nearly 1200 above last years high. Table 1 summarizes the results of each of the above areas. It also shows the minimum total of each species recorded in the east and west flights. In the east flight the minimum total is equal to the higher lookout total plus the additional number recorded early or late at the other lookout. For example, Braddock Bay showed the greater total of 1707 TVs, but up to 3 April Derby Hill recorded 123 more TVs than Braddock Bay. Thus the minimum east flight total of TVs equals 1707 plus 123 of 1830. In the west flight, because Vinemount is only seven miles west of Grimsby, hawks seen at Vinemount and obviously missed at Grimsby because of lack of coverage, or flight out of sight, were added to the west flight total.

Derby Hill's low overall count - 20,000 below 1980 - was due to southerly winds which only prevailed the first four days of April and a week in February. The rest of the season was predominated by westerly and northerly winds which disperses the Derby Hill flight greatly. The entire peak period for Broadwings at the end of April was without south winds. The same weather conditions prevailed at Braddock Bay reducing their total count almost 12,000 from 1980. On 22 days in 38 hours, 6% of total, at inland lookouts, 4715 hawks were recorded which was 17% of the total. Since two of these lookouts are four miles inland it indicates that the flight pattern shifted at least five miles inland during these observation periods.

None of this was noted at Grimsby. Although winds with a northerly vector prevailed on 48% of the days, most were relatively weak (3 or less). Here northerly winds create rising air currents at the escarpment favored by all hawks. Only strong northerly winds will push the flight inland. Contrary to the experience of Derby Hill and Braddock Bay strong southerly winds at Grimsby push the hawk flights near or even over the lake where the hawks can be out sight especially if they are not well above the escarpment level. The all time high total here reflects the generally good weather which allowed an increase in observation days even though the mild spell in February was not utilized.

Table 2 shows the first, last, and peak days with numbers for each species for the three areas achieving continuous coverage, while Table 3 gives the histogram data by weeks for the major species at these lookouts. With the early warming trend ten species showed early arrival dates in February. Peak flight dates, as indicators of preferred migrating conditions, showed no clear cut choice of wind direction. The 42 peak flights occurred on 21 days in which the winds were southerly on 11, northerly on 7, and from the west on 3. No species had their peak flight at the three lookouts on the same day. Broadwings came close when 27 April produced peak flights at Derby Hill and Braddock Bay while at Grimsby their total was just

3% below that of their peak flight on 19 April.

Comparing histogram data at the three lookouts of this season with that of 1980 only two species, Redhoulders and Broadwings, had the same peak periods as last year. The peaks of Turkey Vultures, Harriers, and Kestrels were a week earlier. Ospreys peak was a week later. The other four species showed mixed variations. Roughlegs which were 5 and 6 weeks earlier at Braddock Bay and Derby Hill were 3 weeks later at Grimsby - after all there was no coverage during the early flight. The Sharpshins and Coopers peaks were also a week earlier except at Derby Hill the Sharpshins peak was 4 weeks later, while the Coopers peak at Grimsby was the same as last year. Most peculiar were the mixed data on Redtails. Although Braddock Bay saw no change in the peak period, it was 1 and 2 weeks later at Grimsby and Derby Hill. It is difficult to explain late periods when the migration started 2 weeks earlier.

Comparative Notes on Species

Turkey Vultures 1) Their numbers increased again in both east and west flights.
2) Their migration period persisted over 19 weeks, 22 Feb. - 29 June even though 40% came through the week beginning 29 March.

Goshawks showed a slight gain (5) over last year. This may only be a respite in the general decline. The gain was all in the west flight.

Sharp-shinned Hawks total east + west flight was down 17% compared with two previous years.

Cooper;s Hawk showed an overall gain of 11% in the east + west flight totals.

Red-tailed Hawk total east + west flight count was off 31%.

Broad-winged Hawk total east + west flight count was down 29%. The east flight was off 39% while the west flight was up 41%.

Rough-legged Hawk count was up at all lookouts. The east + west flight was 11% over the previous high in 1979. Derby Hill's peak flight on 22 Feb. of 165 was an all time high.

Golden Eagle overall count was down 6 (21%) - all in the east flight.

Bald Eagle overall count was down 5 (17%) - all in the west flight.

Northern Harriers were 10% over the previous high in 1979. The count of 104 in the west flight was 39% above last years previous high. This species set a new early arrival date 15 Feb. and had the longest migration period - through 25 June.

Ospreys overall count was 20% over last year but 51% below the high of 1979. The west flight count was 12% below last year.

Peregrine Falcon count was 4 above last year but one under 1979.

Merlin count of 17 overall is four over 1980 and two over 1979.

American Kestrel overall count is 4% over 1980 but 8% below 1979. The west flight count was 17% over 1980 which was the previous high.

When comparing 1981 data of all species with 1980 it becomes evident that 1981 was the better year. The east, west, and east + west flights all showed nine species increased. Only one west flight total was the same both years. Decreased numbers were indicated in six species in the east and east + west totals and five species in the west flight totals.

4923 Creek Rd. Lewiston, NY. 14092

Table 1.

Summary of 1981 Hawk Counts at Lake Ontario Lookouts.

Species	East Flight			West Flight		
	Derby Hill	Braddock Bay	East Total	Grimsby	Vinemount	West Total
TV	1294	1707	1830	676	122	712
UA	165	34	165	43	19	48
GO	36	11	36	8	2	9
SS	7272	4612	7276	4096	805	4240
CH	674	124	674	180	25	185
UB	802	655	818	512	40	517
RT	5845	2297	5853	2656	438	2715
RS	799	395	799	532	47	537
BW	20032	15927	20995	6956	1060	6958
RL	620	275	620	41	1	41
UE	1	1	1	1		1
GE	15	6	17*	4	1	5*
BE	10	18	23*	1		1*
NH	719	339	731	102	11	104
OS	327	96	338	19	4	22
UF	6		6	5	1	6
PG	4	2	5	3		3
ML	15	7	15	2		2
AK	561	488	562	125	16	130
UR	86	87	86	87	31	88
Total	39283	27081	40850	16049	2623	16324

*Breakdown of Eagles by Ages

East Flight
 GE 10im + 2sa + 4ad + 1x = 17
 BE 13im + 2sa + 8ad = 23

West Flight
 2im + 3ad = 5
 1ad = 1

Table 2

First, Peak, and Final Appearance of Each Species at Major Lookouts

Species	Derby Hill 2/15-6/3				Braddock Bay 2/15-6/30				Grimsby 2/27-5/31			
	1st	peak	last		1st	peak	last		1st	peak	last	
TV	2/22	3/29	154	6/2	3/15	4/1	178	6/29	3/6	4/2	126	5/31
GO	2/16	3/26	4	5/9	2/25	3/29	4	4/26	3/7	3/25	2	4/26
SS	3/13	4/4	833	5/30	2/28	5/9	645	6/11	3/26	4/10	486	5/31
CH	2/22	4/1	158	5/25	3/12	3/29	23	5/25	3/7	4/10	27	5/24
RT	2/15	4/4	495	6/3	2/15	3/15	387	6/18	2/27	3/16	311	5/31
RS	2/27	3/28	136	5/10	3/1	4/27	3449	5/22	3/4	3/31	106	5/26

Species	Derby Hill 2/15-6/3			Braddock Bay 2/15-6/30			Grimsby 2/27-5/31		
	lst	peak	last	lst	peak	last	lst	peak	last
BW	4/4	4/27 5007	6/3	4/16	4/27 3449	6/29	4/10	4/19 2109	5/31
RL	2/15	2/22 165	6/2	2/15	2/23 40	5/9	3/27	4/11,13 6	4/27
GE	3/26	5/5 5	5/10	4/16	5/9 3	5/9	3/16		5/15
BE	2/26	3/26 4	5/26	2/28	5/25 3	6/16	3/24		3/24
NH	2/15	4/4 91	6/2	2/16	3/29 31	6/25	3/8	5/5 9	5/31
OS	3/29	5/5 70	6/2	4/3	5/9 16	6/15	4/4	4/19 3	5/19
PG	4/1	5/5 2	5/5	4/3		5/25	4/12		5/3
ML	4/1	4/1 5	5/10	3/29	3/29 2	4/28	4/8		4/13
					4/1,23 2				
AK	2/19	4/1 183	5/10	2/28	4/4 97	6/3	3/2	3/31 16	5/26

Table 3

Histogram Data of Major Species at Major Lookouts by Weeks

Species	TV			SS			C			RT			RS		
	Lookout*(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)
Total	1294	1707	676	7272	4612	4096	618	124	180	5163	2297	2656	695	393	532
Week															
2/15	0	0	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	0.7	0.4	-	0	0	-
2/22	0.2	0	-	0	+	-	0.4	0	-	4.1	2.7	0.7	0.1	0	0
3/1	0	0	0.2	0	+	0	0.2	0	0.6	2.5	0.7	7.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
3/8	0.2	0	0.2	+	0.1	0	0.6	0.8	0.6	4.1	7.6	11.3	0.6	2.3	0.6
3/15	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0.4	0	0.7	7.3	1.1	3.0	17.1	14.9	1.6	53.2	2.3
3/22	6.8	2.5	6.2	0.6	0.5	0.3	22.4	7.3	16.7	24.0	10.0	30.2	55.8	10.4	56.4
3/29	51.4	36.9	54.7	23.1	19.6	8.1	46.6	34.7	17.2	31.0	28.7	8.1	31.9	30.2	30.0
4/5	13.8	11.0	20.2	6.3	6.7	29.4	5.6	5.6	32.8	7.2	3.7	8.5	4.1	2.8	5.8
4/12	4.5	1.6	5.9	10.4	4.2	10.6	4.9	4.0	7.2	2.8	1.2	2.1	0.6	0	2.6
4/19	0.9	2.0	4.0	5.9	7.1	10.6	3.1	11.3	4.4	1.8	1.5	3.5	0.6	0	0.6
4/26	4.9	8.5	4.6	17.8	11.1	19.0	7.9	10.5	7.2	5.9	8.1	4.6	1.0	0.5	0.4
5/3	9.8	13.0	2.2	24.7	42.4	19.5	5.8	9.7	10.5	9.8	10.2	6.7	2.6	0	0.4
5/10	4.4	1.2	0.4	8.6	6.4	1.0	1.0	4.8	0	1.8	3.3	0.2	0.5	0	0
5/17	0.2	2.8	0.3	1.6	0.8	0.9	0.4	3.2	1.1	0.8	2.0	1.5	0	0.2	0.4
5/24	2.6	9.7	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	2.4	0.3	0	0	0.2
5/31	0.4	3.7	0.3	0	0.1	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	+	+	0	0	0
6/7	-	0.9	-	-	+	-	-	0	-	-	0.1	-	-	0	-
6/14	-	5.7	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0.2	-	-	0	-
6/21	-	0.2	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-
6/28	-	0.2	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-

Species	RW			RL			NH			OS			AK		
Total	20032	15927	6956	585	275	41	623	339	102	287	96	19	493	488	125
Week															
2/15	0	0	-	23.5	6.2	-	2.4	1.2	-	0	0	-	0.2	0	-
2/22	0	0	0	35.5	34.6	2.4	3.1	2.1	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0
3/1	0	0	0	1.1	11.3	9.7	0	2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.6
3/8	0	0	0	4.5	7.6	19.6	2.2	2.9	2.0	0	0	0	0.5	0.4	1.6
3/15	0	0	0	1.3	6.9	4.9	0.4	5.3	2.9	0	0	0	1.1	4.9	2.4
3/22	0	0	0	12.9	8.7	12.2	12.5	4.1	2.9	0	0	0	11.0	2.3	19.2
3/29	+	0	0	17.3	18.5	9.7	30.4	24.5	20.6	1.5	4.2	10.5	66.0	73.5	45.6
4/5	+	0	+	1.0	1.1	22.0	8.3	7.4	19.6	1.8	1.0	10.5	7.3	8.0	7.2
4/12	2.0	0.1	0.4	0.5	1.1	14.7	4.5	6.2	9.8	4.0	1.0	10.6	3.2	2.9	10.4
4/19	17.5	19.8	33.2	0.3	0.4	2.4	5.4	7.7	5.9	15.3	3.1	21.0	3.2	0.2	5.6
4/26	55.3	49.5	62.9	1.8	1.8	2.4	8.8	11.8	10.8	17.7	13.5	21.0	6.0	3.5	1.6
5/3	6.4	3.3	3.2	0.2	1.8	0	13.9	12.1	15.7	34.0	30.2	10.5	0.9	2.5	1.6
5/10	0.6	0.2	+	0	0	0	5.6	2.9	1.0	10.7	16.7	5.3	0.4	0.8	1.6
5/17	0.7	0.8	0.2	0	0	0	1.1	2.7	3.9	5.2	1.1	5.3	0	0.4	0
5/24	16.7	19.8	0.1	0	0	0	1.1	2.9	3.9	9.5	17.7	5.2	0	0.2	1.6
5/31	0.8	3.9	+	0.2	0	0	0.3	2.7	0	0.3	7.3	0	0	0.2	0
6/7	-	0.9	-	-	0	-	-	0.3	-	-	3.1	-	-	0	-
6/14	-	1.6	-	-	0	-	-	0.6	-	-	1.0	-	-	0	-
6/21	-	+	-	-	0	-	-	0.3	-	-	0	-	-	0	-
6/28	-	0.1	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-

*Lookout Key: (1) Derby Hill, (2) Braddock Bay, and (3) Grimsby.

NOTES

A Second Clay-colored Sparrow near Alfred

The male Clay-colored Sparrow reported in June continued its presence in the spruce plantation at the height-of-land on Moland Road in the town of Alfred. It was observed on July 1st, 8th, and 15th.

A small section of Christmas tree plantation owned by the Kent Farms was censused for breeding birds at weekly intervals beginning in mid-May. This particular plantation consists of about 3-4 acres of Scotch Pine (at the 4-8' range of height) and 3-4 acres of mixed Blue Spruce, White Spruce and a few Douglas Fir (also at the 4-8' range in height). No Clay-colored Sparrows were observed in the area until the evening of July 10. Lois Chapman and I both recognized the typical buzzy song - bzzzz, bzzzz, bzzzz, bzzzz (with the last three buzzes on a slightly higher pitch than the first one). We quickly tracked the bird down. I noted the plain buff breast, sparrow-size, and the distinctly streaked dark brown and whitish crown. The bird was in the same area that was already territorially claimed by a Chipping Sparrow. There was no evidence of a female Clay-colored Sparrow, nor was a nest found.

Lois returned with her mother, Lorry Chapman, the following morning (July 11) and the bird was still there. However, on subsequent visits to the plantation the bird was not found.

This plantation is located at 2180' elevation just off the Jones Road in the town of Andover and is well over 5 miles south of the Moland Road location.

Two early fall (or late spring?) Red Crossbill Sightings

On the evening of July 5th, I was nest-hunting in a small Douglas Fir and White and Blue Spruce Christmas tree plantation on the north side of the intersection of Elm Valley Road and Lake Road in the town of Alfred (elevation 2300 feet). From a distance of 50 yards, a reddish-colored finch-sized bird flew up from a Blue Spruce tree and flew off. As it flew I recognized the distinctive flight call of a Red Crossbill (a rhythmic series of kips - most often, 2 kips then 3 more kips repeated over and over again. I felt rather frustrated because I did not get a good enough look at the bird.

However, on July 31 while nest-finding on Moland Road in the same spruce plantation where the Clay-colored Sparrow was found, I heard the same distinctive flight call. This time, however, the bird was more cooperative. It landed on a telephone wire, just 50 feet from me, and posed for at least 3 minutes before moving on. Both with and without 7 x 35 binoculars, in good light, I observed the bird which was about the same size but less chunky than a Purple Finch. The back and breast was a dull brick red; the tail was notched; there were no wingbars. The head was the same dull brick red color; the bill was clearly crossed.

Elizabeth W. Brooks
August 5, 1981

Fish & Wildlife Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey - 1981
by: Walter Klabunde

Each year since 1967 members and associates of B.O.S. have cooperated in the Fish & Wildlife Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey of North America program. The details of procedures and route description are presented in Prothonotary Vol. 33 No. 10 pages 123-7 (1967) and Vol. 34 No. 10 page 112 (1968). This year again only 16 of the assigned 19 routes are included in this report. However, we were extremely fortunate to add nine new cooperators - four observers and five assistants. The following listing shows the cooperators for each of the routes; the new cooperators are underlined.

Route		Observer	Assistant
Number	Name		
001	Dunnville	no report	
045	Phillip's Creek	Doris Burton	Lou Burton
046	Swain	Elizabeth W. Brooks	Clarence W. Klingensmith
052	Mt. Morris	<u>Douglas Bassett</u>	<u>Mrs. Bassett (Sr.)</u>

Route		Observer	Assistant
Number	Name		
053	Hamburg	no report	
054	West Seneca	Marie Wendling	Clara Henderson
055	Gainsesville	<u>Mary H. Batcheller</u>	<u>Gordon Batcheller</u>
056	Cattaraugus	not run	
057	East Java	David Junkin	<u>Marty Junkin</u>
058	Castile	<u>Douglas Bassett</u>	<u>Mrs. Bassett (Sr.)</u>
059	Randolph	Stephen W. Eaton	Ellen E. Eaton
060	Centerville	<u>V. Carpenter</u>	(none indicated)
061	Sheridan	Frances Rew	Lois Buck
062	Cherry Hill	Robert A. Sundell	<u>David Gagne</u>
063	Nashville	Robert M. Wagner	<u>Edith N. Wagner</u>
064	St. Johnsburg	Alice McKale	Willard McKale
065	E. Youngstown	Harriette Klabunde	Walter Klabunde
066	Byron	<u>Elva Hawken</u>	<u>Dave Keller</u>
111	S. Vandalia	Regina N. VanScoy	James S. Van Scoy

Table I shows the number of each species recorded and the percentage of routes in which the species was recorded. Also noted after the species name is the status of the number compared with those of the other 14 years. The letter H indicates the number to be among the top five, while L denotes the number to be among the bottom five. No letter indicates the number is among the middle five.

A total of 114 species were recorded this year of which one, Wilson's Warbler was classified as a late migrant, leaving a net of 113.

The House Finch was new on the list bringing the total species recorded in the 15 years to 152. Either this species was long overdue or its population is expanding rapidly, inasmuch as 9 individuals were recorded on two routes 063 and 111 (Nashville and S. Vandalia).

Among the 39 species rated H, six were record highs. They were American Kestrel, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Blue-w. Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-r. Warbler, and of course House Finch.

American Kestrel numbers have vacillated between 10 and 31 in the past 14 years. This years 45 is a dramatic increase.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers have been recorded on three different routes 052, 060, and 066 (Mt. Morris, Centerville and Byron). However, this is the first time they were observed on two routes, 052 and 066, in one season.

Blue-w. and Magnolia Warblers both were just slightly above previous highs. However, it appears that Yellow-r. Warblers may be increasing slowly. This species has been recorded only seven years, normally on routes 045 and 046 (Phillip's Creek and Swain) in Allegany County. It has been observed regularly now in the past five years. This year three of the four were recorded on route 059 (Randolph), thus expanding its territory significantly by including south western Cattaraugus County.

Nine of the 39 species with an L rating were all time lows, Four, Chimney Swifts, Least Flycatchers, Robins, and Grackles were undoubtedly due to the three missing routes.

House Wrens showed a similar drop in population in 1968 and 1969.

Wood Thrush numbers were 40% below last years count which was near the median. Likewise Red-w. Blackbirds were 40% below the median for fifteen years. There is no explanation for this sudden drop.

However, two other species are in trouble. Towhees were down to 30% of its first seven years average while Vesper Sparrows were down to 10% of its first count in 1967. Towhees began their downfall in 1974 while vesper suffered a continuous decline during the entire period.

It is noted that 25 species were recorded on all routes this year. Only in one other year, 1967, were more species seen on all routes (26). Over the entire period the median number is 21 with a low of 17. Generally species seen on all routes are more abundant. Table II shows how the 10 most abundant species have fared over the years. The ratings in the first (1967), eighth (1974), and fifteenth (1981) years are indicated. It shows some interesting changes.

This is the only year Starlings have replaced Redwings as the No. 1 bird, and it probably will not happen again for some time. In the next three places (3, 4, and 5) the positions oscillate while Song Sparrow was the only species to maintain its placing (6).

Among the last four placings each except Crow drops out of the rating. Actually throughout the years Crows are well above the 10th place, 1967 saw the lowest number of Crows recorded for the 15 years. Present trends indicate that Meadowlarks will probably remain off the list for some years. Savannah Sparrows and Bobolinks will probably be replaced by Rock Doves and Mourning Doves in 9th and 10th places periodically, with Barn Swallows holding on to the 8th spot.

4923 Creek Rd. Lewiston NY. 14092

TABLE I

Summary 1981 F & W Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey in Western N.Y.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>% Rtes</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%Rtes</u>
Gr. Blue Heron	18	63	Gray Catbird	184	100
Green Heron	14	56	Brown Thrasher L	24	13
Bl.-cr. Night Heron H	1	6	American Robin L	1171	100
Amer. Bittern	1	6	Wood Thrush L	88	100
Mallard	29	38	Hermit Thrush	3	13

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%Rtes</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%Rtes</u>
Blue-w. Teal	3	13	Veery	48	75
Wood Duck	3	13	Eastern Bluebird H	13	31
Turkey Vulture H	4	19	Golden-cr. Kinglet H	4	6
Cooper's Hawk H	1	6	Cedar Waxwing H	168	94
Red-tailed Hawk H	18	56	Starling L	2378	100
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	19	Yellow-thr. Vireo H	5	25
Marsh Hawk	2	13	Solitary Vireo H	4	13
American Kestrel H	45	44	Red-eyed Vireo L	119	100
Ruffed Grouse	1	6	Warbling Vireo L	45	69
Ring-n. Pheasant L	110	63	Golden-w. Warbler	1	6
Killdeer	178	100	Blue-w. Warbler H	27	63
Common Snipe	5	25	Nashville Warbler	2	13
Upland Sandpiper L	4	13	Yellow Warbler	300	100
Spotted Sandpiper L	7	38	Magnolia Warbler H	11	13
Ring-b. Gull H	288	25	Yellow-r. Warbler H	4	13
Rock Dove L	290	94	Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	20	38
Mourning Dove H	364	100	Blackburn. Warbler H	8	19
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	2	13	Chestnut-s. Warbler	22	44
Black-b. Cuckoo L	5	25	Ovenbird	32	63
Great Horned Owl	1	6	La. Waterthrush H	1	6
Barred Owl	1	6	Mourning Warbler	8	25
Chimney Swift L	31	56	Com. Yellowthroat H	251	100
Ruby-t. Hummingbird H	6	31	Hooded Warbler	3	13
Belted Kingfisher H	18	44	Wilson's Warbler	(1)N.C.	
Comon Flicker L	36	88	Canada Warbler L	3	6
Pileated Wdpker. H	3	19	American Redstart	25	44
Red-bellied Wdpkr. H	3	13	House Sparrow H	1400	100
Red-headed Wdpker. L	2	13	Boblink	369	100
Hairy Woodpecker H	6	19	E. Meadowlark L	288	100
Downey Woodpecker H	30	88	Red-w. Blackbird L	2335	100
Eastern Kingbird H	81	100	Northern Oriole L	92	100
Gr. Crest. Flycatcher L	26	75	Common Grackle L	1224	100
Eastern Phoebe L	24	56	Brown-h. Cowbird	204	100
Willow Flycatcher	65	75	Scarlet Tanager	29	75
Alder Flycatcher	7	25	Cardinal	92	94
Least Flycatcher L	31	88	Rose-br. Grosbeak H	60	88
E. Wood Pewee L	39	81	Indigo Bunting H	160	88
Horned Lark	51	56	Purple Finch L	14	38
Tree Swallow	39	50	House Finch H	9	13
Bank Swallow	95	44	Amer. Goldfinch	421	100
Rough-w. Swallow	6	25	Rufous-s. Towhee L	38	50
Barn Swallow H	491	100	Savannah Sparrow L	354	100
Cliff Swallow H	15	25	Grasshop'r Sparrow	14	38
Purple Martin L	21	31	Henslow's Sparrow H	12	38
Blue Jay	94	100	Vesper Sparrow L	11	38
Common Crow	624	100	Dark-eyed Juncò H	16	25
Black-c. Chickadee H	83	100	Chipping Sparrow H	317	100

<u>Species</u>		<u>Number</u>	<u>%Rtes</u>	<u>Species</u>		<u>Number</u>	<u>%Rtes</u>
White-br. Nuthatch	H	16	50	Field Sparrow	L	148	94
Red-br. Nuthatch	H	1	6	Wh.-thr. Sparrow		1	6
Brown Creeper	H	3	6	Swamp Sparrow		18	44
Winter Wren	H	1	6	Song Sparrow	L	908	100
House Wren	L	107	88				
Mockingbird	H	2	6	Total Individuals	16,964		

TABLE II

Abundance Ratings

Year	1967	1974	1981
Rating			
1	Redw.Blackbird 2748	Red-w. Blackbird 2964	Starling 2378
2	Starling 2479	Starling 2515	Red-w.Blackbird 2335
3	Robin 1250	Grackle 1469	House Sparrow 1400
4	Grackle 1227	Robin 1443	Grackle 1224
5	House Sparrow 1055	House Sparrow 1227	Robin 1171
6	Song Sparrow 963	Song Sparrow 1072	Song Sparrow 908
7	Goldfinch 600	Crow 620	Crow 624
8	Meadowlark 528	Meadowlark 491	Barn Swallow 491
9	Savannah Sparrow 481	Savannah Sparrow 421	Goldfinch 421
10	Crow 452	Barn Swallow 404	Boblink 369
11	Boblink 376	Goldfinch 338	Savannah Sp.(12) 354
12	Barn Swallow 301	Boblink (15) 286	Meadowlark (16) 288

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

February 7 - Trip with the Genessee Ornithological Society. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Fort Niagara. Leader: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777)

February 21 - Lake Ontario Plain. Leader: Walter Klabunde (774-4474). Meet at TOPS Market parking lot in Lewiston (190 to Lewiston Exit, West on to Rt. 104 to TOPS).

PROGRAM - COUNTS

The following are the count dates for 1982: April 18, May 16, October 10 and December 19th.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

Volume 47, Number 8-"Meetings"(con't.)

Future Program Meetings:

- January 27 - Alaska: Scenery, birds, and native people presented by David Mark.
February 10 - Aspects of bird behavior which can be applied to human behavior
Presented by Marc J. Chelemer.
February 24 - Symposium on female duck identification(included:slides, skins,
and discussion.)

March 10 - Dr. Harold Axtell will present a program on hawks.
March 24 - The Common Tern. Presented by Ralph Morris.
April 14 - The species concept. Presented by Robert Klips.
April 28 - Demonstration and display of taxidermy by James Dorr of the
Buffalo Museum of Science.
May 12 - What's happening at Oak Orchard and also a review of the April
Count.
May 26 - Panel discussion on the identification of fall migrants.
June 9 - Picnic meeting at Fort Erie. Report of the May Count.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of
the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave.
Kenmore, NY. 14217.

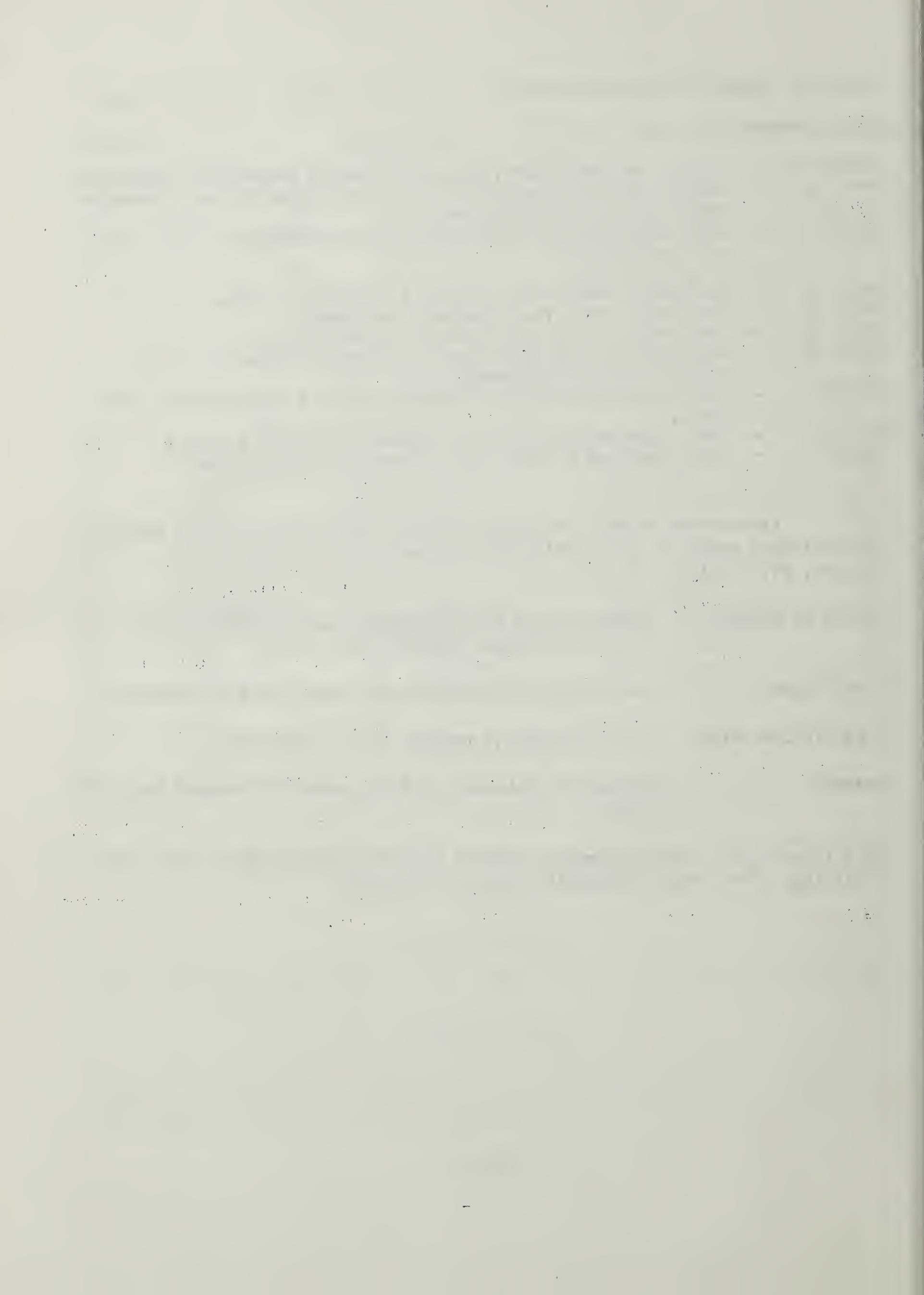
CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at
18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, N.Y. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year; payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY.
14127

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department
of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



FEB 22 1982

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

SEPTEMBER 1981

NUMBER 9

THE MONTH

The weather in August continued cloudy and warm with the glorious exception of the week of the 16th when a cold front passed through the Niagara Frontier followed by a deep high pressure system with sunny days, low humidity and pleasantly cool evenings until the 22nd when the winds shifted to the southwest. The average temperature for the month was 70.0°(F) , 1.6° above normal. Precipitation measured 3.13 inches, a departure of -0.40 inches from the norm. There were no major weather disturbances. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The passage of the only significant cold front of the month on August 16th produced a movement of both shorebird and passerine fall migrants. At Morgan's Point, Ontario on that date, observers reported a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, a Philadelphia Vireo, two Canada Warblers and a Northern Waterthrush. Further west, at Rock Point Provincial Park in Sherbrooke Township, over 1000 Bank Swallows had gathered as well as two Whimbrel, rare fall migrants here, and three Upland Sandpipers. While these birds reminded everyone of impending autumn, the discovery of a nesting Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Rock Point in the midst of all this migratory activity on August 16th was most welcome. Earlier in the month, the first migrating terns were seen on the Niagara River in numbers. Several records of Caspian Tern were received with a maximum count of eleven birds of this species reported by Frances Rew from Dunkirk Harbor on August 24th. Two Least Bitterns, the first reported this season, were seen at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on August 19th.

Most of the field observers in the Buffalo area again concentrated their efforts on the shorebird migration during August. Once again the cannery ponds at St. David's, Ontario were most productive although many flocks of sand-

pipers and other shorebirds were seen at favorite haunts on the north shore of Lake Erie-especially Rock Point Provincial Park where in addition to the Whimbrel mentioned above, on August 30th Robert Andrie and his party saw the first Buff-breasted Sandpiper of the season in the company of a Baird's Sandpiper in a plowed field. A rare Western Sandpiper was also reported from this location on that date. Earlier, on August 26th, Harold Axtell counted 168 Black-bellied Plovers at the sod farm at Stromness, Ontario. On August 19th and 20th, Axtell spent considerable time studying a Long-billed Dowitcher in the company of six Short-billed Dowitchers in a shallow pool in the dried-up cannery pond at St. David's. This bird was noticeably larger than its short-billed congeners with a strikingly longer bill; noticeably lacking was the orange-buff color of the feather margins and of the breast so characteristic of the short-billed species. Dr. Axtell also reported '25 or 30' probable Western Sandpipers present at the cannery ponds between August 23rd and 25th but he described only nine with maximum length bills in his written verification, birds which in his opinion were "beyond possible controversy among 'competent' students of shorebird identification." A Western Sandpiper was also reported from the diked disposal site south of the Small Boat Harbor on the Buffalo waterfront.

Other interesting records for the month include an adult female Merlin, a rare fall migrant in the Southern Tier counties of western New York, which Fran Rew identified flying along the edge of a gravel road in the Town of Stockton in Chautauqua County on August 29th. The first Forster's Terns of the migration were seen at both Rock Point Provincial Park and Morgan's Point, Ontario on August 21st. A rare immature Black-legged Kittiwake was reported from the Buffalo side of the Niagara River below the Peace Bridge on August 31st but no verifying write-up and description of the bird was received. Finally, a second Swainson's Thrush made its appearance at Harold Axtell's home on Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie on August 11th and stayed for the balance of the month. Both of these birds are now presumed to be very early migrants.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Ave., Kenmore, NY. 14222

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
- F - Indicates first record for the migration
- L - Indicates last record for the migration
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station

Volume 47, Number 9-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	Aug.			
D. Crest. Cormorant	30	6	Mohawk Island, Ont.	Andrle et al
Great Egret	23	2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	3	1	Derby	Powers
	8	4	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	2	Derby	Powers
	15	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	23	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Cooper's Hawk	12,13	1,1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Osprey	14	1	Rathfon Point, Ont.	McKales
*Merlin	29	1	Town of Stockton	Rew
*Amer. Golden Plover	31F	4	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Black-bell. Plover	16F	4	Lowbanks, Ont.	McKale et al
	26	168	Lowbanks, Ont.) (sod farm)	Axtell
Upland Sandpiper	30	4	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
Red Knot	3	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
W-rump. Sandpiper	14F	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	McKales
	22,25	1,1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
*Baird's Sandpiper	3	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell, McLaughlin
	30	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
*Long-b. Dowitcher	19,20	1,1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell et al
*Buff-br. Sandpiper	30	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
Western Sandpiper	1	1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell, McLaughlin
	16-18,22,29	1,3,1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell et al
	23-25	9	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell et al
	28	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
Wilson's Phalarope	1-3,12	1,1	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
*Franklin's Gull	28F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
*Forster's Tern	21F	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Andrle et al
	21F	1	Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
	27	4	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
	27	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	31	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Caspian Tern	8	2	Times Beach, Bflo.	McKales, O'Dell et al
	12	2	Erie Beach, Ont.	Axtell
	14,16	2,2	Morgan's Point, Ont.	McKales
	24	11	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Barn Owl	2	1	Derby	Powers
Olive-s. Flycatcher	25F	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Purple Martin	15	2500	Fort Erie, Ont.	McKales
Tufted Titmouse	1	2	Derby	Powers
	24	1	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
	28	1	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	27F,31	1,1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Axtell
Carolina Wren	24	1	Point Gratiot	Rew
	24	3	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	August			
Mockingbird	12	1	Derby	Powers
Swainson's Thrush	1-10	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	11-31	2	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Eastern Bluebird	1-31	1-17	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	16	1	Derby	Powers
Bl. & w. Warbler	11F	1	Eggertsville	McKales
	16	1	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Magnolia Warbler	31F	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Cape May Warbler	31F	3	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Yellow-r. Warbler	1, 2, 7	2, 6, 4	Alfred	Brooks
			(previously documented location)	
Blackpoll Warbler	31F	2	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Blackburnian Warbler	30F	1	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
Bay-br. Warbler	30F	2	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
Prairie Warbler	1, 7	4, 3	Town of Alfred	Brooks
			(previously documented location)	
Nor. Waterthrush	16F	1	Morgan's Point, Ont.	McKales
Canada Warbler	16F	2	Morgan's Point, Ont.	McKale
	28	1	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
House Finch	1-31	1-7	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	2	6	Wales	Rosche

Species, Subspecies & Hybrids previously recorded this year.....253

Species, Subspecies & Hybrids recorded this issue..... 7

Total for year.....260

MARCH WINTERING BIRD CENSUS

House Finch, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Cardinal

The Research Committee of the Buffalo Ornithological Society is once again initiating a study of the five wintering birds listed above in our area, but we will record during the month of March only. This should provide us with a "survival" count, as the backbone of the winter has usually been broken by the first of March.

Depending entirely upon your response, we will continue this study for a period of five years. This should give us enough data to determine to some extent what effect such factors as winter severity, temperatures and amount of snowfall have on the survival of the five species we will be observing.

Affixed to the back of this issue of the Prothonotary is a check list on which you can record, after each field trip, your sightings of any of the five species. You don't need a separate sheet for each of the species- just record your findings chronologically. Then, at the end of the month, send your check list to Marg Wrigh whose address is on the check sheet. She will tabulate the results from your recor

Volume 47, Number 9-"Wintering Birds"(con't.)

Please try to pinpoint the location where you have seen a bird as accurately as possible- town or road, landmark or, whenever possible, give B.O.S. sectional may co-ordination. Also be sure to list the number of birds of a species seen at a give time and place, and if seen at a feeder.

Participation in this Census is by no means restricted to members of the B.O.S. We urge our friends in the Southern Tier, as well as all other birders whom the Prothonotary reaches, to contribute also. The value of a study such as this is entirely dependent upon the input. If enough birders actively participate, we should derive some interesting and meaningful data.

Please send your check lists no later than April 10 to Marg Wright, 2481 Sheridan Drive-Apt. 5, Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150.

Good Luck!!

Your Research Committee

Please note the following additions and changes to the B.O.S. Roster:

New members:

Mary Batcheller (Mrs. Gordon)	Assoc 3/81
12770 Main St.	
Alden, NY. 14004	
937-3680	

Gordon Batcheller	Assoc 3/81
12770 Main St.	
Alden, NY 14004	
937-3680	

William Boyers	Assoc 12/80
45 Roycroft Blvd.	
Amherst, NY 14226	
839-2007	

William Broderick	Assoc 11/80
830 River Rd.	
Youngstown, NY 14174	

John Wright	Assoc 1/81
2481 Sheridan Dr. Apt. 5	
Tonawanda, NY 14150	

Margaret Wright (Mrs. John)	Assoc 1/81
2481 Sheridan Dr. Apt. 5	
Tonawanda, NY. 14150	

Address changes:

Karen Geiger
350 Quaker Rd. #2
East Aurora, NY 14052
652-4367

Frederick Harrington
1305 B. University Village
East Lansing, MI 48823

John D. Marvin III
1260 North Forest Rd. #1 Adams
Williamsville, NY 14221

Mrs. John D. Marvin
1260 North Forest Rd. #1 Adams
Williamsville, NY. 14221

Jacqueline M. Stains
904 A. Heritage Village
Southbury, CT 06488

Dr. James F. Swiencicki
72 Shire South
East Amherst, NY 14051
689-6609

David H. Wilcove
Dept. of Biology
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08544

Michael A. Zebchazy
1469 E. Quaker Rd.
Orchard Park, NY 14127
655-4777

Submitted by Audrey Horbett, Membership Committee.

PROGRAM - COUNTS

The following are the count dates for 1982: April 18, May 16, October 10 and December 19th.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

February 7 - Trip with the Genessee Ornithological Society. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Fort Niagara. Leader: Mike Zebchazy (655-4777)

February 21 - Lake Ontario Plain. Leader: Walter Klabunde (774-4474). Meet at TOPS Market parking lot in Lewiston (190 to Lewiston Exit, West on to Rt. 104 to TOPS).

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

Future Program Meetings:

- January 27 - Alaska: Scenery, birds, and native people presented by David Mark.
- February 10 - Aspects of bird behavior which can be applied to human behavior. Presented by Marc J. Chelemer.
- February 24 - Symposium on female duck identification. Including slides, skins, and discussion.
- March 10 - Dr. Harold Axtell will present a program on hawks.
- March 24 - The Common Tern. Presented by Ralph Morris.
- April 14 - The species concept. Presented by Robert Klips.
- April 28 - Demonstration and display of taxidermy by James Dorr of the Buffalo Museum of Science.
- May 12 - What's happening at Oak Orchard and also a review of the April Count.
- May 26 - Panel discussion on the identification of fall migrants.
- June 9 - Picnic meeting at Fort Erie. Report of the May Count.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, New York 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, New York 14127 (tel. 655-4777)

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CHECK LIST 1982

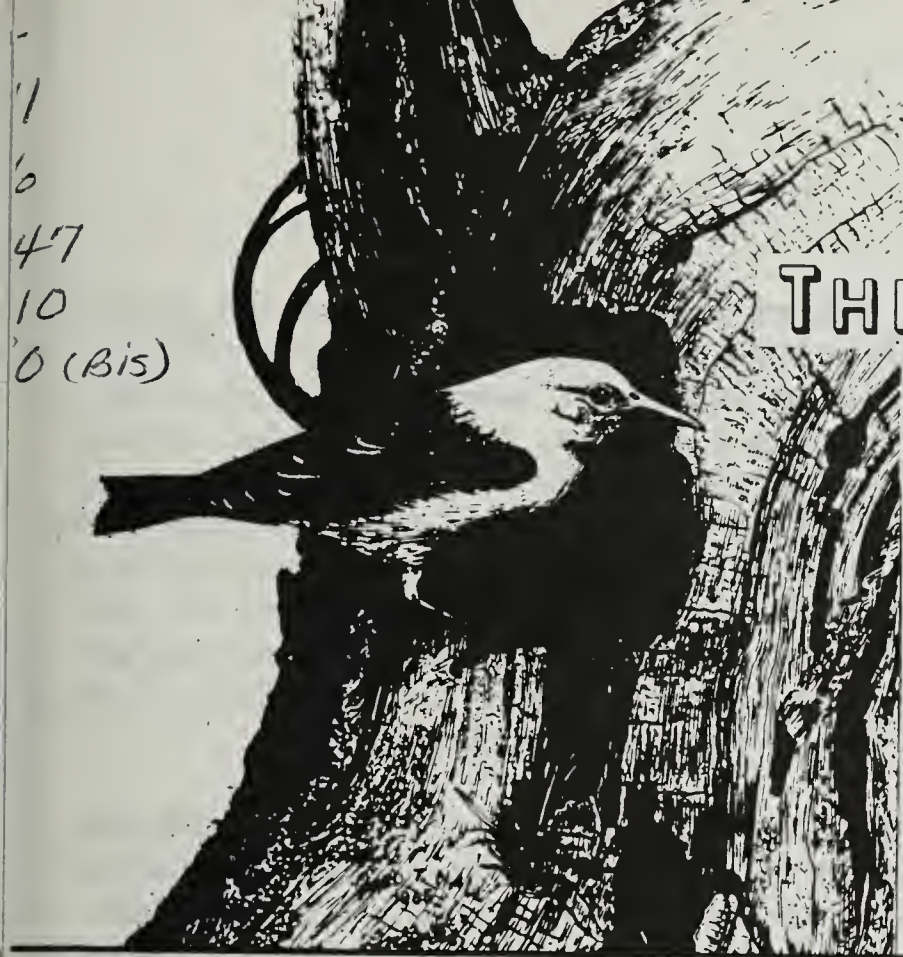
MARCH WINTERING BIRD CENSUS

House Finch, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren,

Mockingbird, Cardinal

Species	Number	Location	Feeder?

Please mail by April 10 to: Mrs. Marg Wright
2481 Sheridan Drive- Apt. 5
Tonawanda, N. Y. 14150



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN

LIBRARIAN

ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

VOLUME 47

OCTOBER 1980

MAR 16 1982

NUMBER 10

THE MONTH

The warm, humid days with intermittent precipitation that characterized weather patterns in July and August continued in September until heavy rains on the 8th ushered in a cold front and temperatures became more seasonal. The high temperature for the month was 85°(F) on September 1st and the first frost of the season occurred in the higher elevations south of Buffalo on September 30th. The average temperature for the month was 60.9°(F), a departure of -0.7° from the norm. Precipitation in the form of rain measured 4.24 inches, 0.99 inches above normal with heavy downpours of 1.16 inches and 1.13 inches recorded on the 2nd and 21st respectively. There were only seven days in September totally free of rainfall and none without some cloud cover. Only 31% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

September is the month when the fall migration of most bird species through our study area is at its peak. Not surprisingly, the most interesting ornithological observations occur in concert with the passage of weather fronts. During the morning of September 15th, Robert Andrle counted fifteen Sharp-shinned Hawks in migration over the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on a brisk north-west wind, the first day favorable for such movement following five sunny and warm days. Andrle speculated that meteorological conditions were favorable for the first big fall movement of hawks and other raptors and regretted another missed opportunity to have gone to Port Stanley, Ontario on the Lake Erie shore some 180 miles west of Buffalo to witness the flight. More fortunate was B.O.S. member Ward Klepfer who was present on that date at 'Hawk Cliff', the look-out maintained by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists at Port Stanley. In only three hours between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Klepfer was thrilled to witness a flight of 25,000 Broad-winged Hawks, 1500 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 1000 American Kestrels, 30 Marsh Hawks and one Bald Eagle! It was one of the more notable movements of raptors ever observed in such a short period of time at that location. On September 10th,

with gale force winds buffeting the area, Robert Andrie and his party had good views of an adult Sabine's Gull, apparently blown into the Niagara River from Lake Erie by the weather disturbance. The bird was first seen briefly shortly after noon on the Niagara River south of the Peace Bridge, flying in the company of some 5,000 Bonaparte's Gulls. It was seen again in the evening, quartering back and forth on the river, frequently alighting in the water and floating downstream before flying back again. This weather disturbance also produced a flock of seven Northern Phalaropes and a Parasitic Jaeger on the Niagara River at that time. On the following day, when the winds had subsided, an immature Sabine's Gull was reported quietly resting on the lawn at Mather Park in Fort Erie. These are the earliest records for this rare larid in our study area.

For the fifteenth consecutive year, Arthur Clark conducted his census of warblers and other birds killed at television towers in the higher elevations south of Buffalo in Erie County during their nocturnal migration. In spite of overcast nights with heavy cloud cover most of the month, the recorded kill was the second lowest in the history of the project. The largest kill at the T-V towers was counted after the night of September 6th-7th when 199 birds of 27 species including one Dickcissel and one Warbling Vireo - both new to the local mortality list, were recovered. The second largest kill was the previous evening, September 5th when only 31 birds of 15 species were recovered. Clark remarked that the Warbling Vireo is rarely a casualty at television tower kills in eastern North America for reasons that remain obscure with the data available. In contrast to our good fortune on the Niagara Frontier, the hydro generating station smoke stack at Lennox, Ontario which is illuminated at night by spotlights, was responsible for a kill estimated in excess of 10,000 birds over a three night period in early September.

Interesting records for September include four Great Egrets which continued to be seen at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge throughout the month. A Snow Goose was reported at Mallard Overlook at the refuge on September 26th. Nine Black Scoters were seen on the Niagara River above the Peace Bridge on September 28th, an early date of the arrival of this uncommon species in our region. On the 28th, also, Robert Klips reported an immature Black-legged Kittiwake on the Niagara River, south of the Peace Bridge. This is an early arrival date for this rare fall visitor which was in the company of a flock of Bonaparte's Gulls when discovered. Paul Reger of Grand Island reported a flock of seven Bobwhite Quail in the garden of his residence on Stony Point Road on September 13th. Mr. Reger, who is active with sportmen's groups in Erie County, does not believe that these birds were pen-reared but part of a natural population of this species which may be descendants of released birds. At any rate, because of the records of releases of pen-reared quail on Grand Island in recent years, more evidence of its establishment as a self-sustaining breeding population is needed.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 142

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

Volume 47, Number 10-Noteworthy Records(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	Sept.			
D.-crest Cormorant	10	2	Buffalo	Andrle et al
	28	1	Fort Eire, Ont.	Klips
Great Egret	7	3	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	13	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	16	15	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
	30	2	Buffalo	Klips
Canada Goose	22F	45	over Eggertsville	McKales
	23	25	Wales	Rosche
	23	80	Alfred	Brooks
	23	150	Belmont	Burtons
Gadwall	16	10	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
Lesser Scaup	12	1	LaSalle Pk., Bflo	Andrle et al
*Black Scoter	28	9	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	1	Derby	Powers
	5	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	6	1	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Thills
	15	15	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
	21	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	29	1	Elma	Forsberg
Cooper's Hawk	7,13	1,1	Belmont	Burtons
	8	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	19	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	21	1	Derby	Powers
Broad-wing. Hawk	1	86	Derby	Powers
Bald Eagle	24	1	Derby	Powers
Osprey	9	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	13	1	Buffalo	Andrle, Foster
	19	1	Allegheny River, Catt.	Co. Rosche
	19	2	York Corners	Brooks
	19	1	Port Colborne, Ont.	Fessler
American Kestrel	1	31	Derby	Powers
Solitary Sandpiper	11	3	Derby	Powers
Amer. Golden Plover	6,13	23,2	Clarence	McKales
	7	23	Clarence	Andrle et al
Common Snipe	6	24	Clarence	McKales
Baird's Sandpiper	6	1	Clarence	McKales
*Northern Phalarope	10F,20	7,3	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al, Klips
	20	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
*Parasitic Jaeger	10	1	Front Pk., Buffalo	Andrle, Foster
Franklin's Gull	2	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle
	3	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	20	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klips
	24	1	Niagara Falls	Klips
	28	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klips
Little Gull	10	4	Buffalo	Andrle, Foster
	20	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klips
	24	2	Buffalo	Klips
	24	2	Niagara Falls	Klips

Volume 47, Number 10 - "Noteworthy Records" (con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u> September	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	10	1	Buffalo	Andrle et al
*Sabine's Gull	3	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Forster's Tern	12	5	LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle, Foster
	24	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klips
Caspian Tern	1	2	Derby	Powers
	7	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	1	2	Derby	Powers
	14F, 15	1, 1	Wales	Rosche
	15	1	Eggertsville	McKales
Eastern Kingbird	1-7L	1-2	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Gr. Crest. Flycatcher	21L	1	Derby	Powers
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	12	1	Alfred	Brooks
Least Flycatcher	11L	1	Derby	Powers
Olive-s. Flycatcher	12	1	Wainfleet Twp., Ont.	Fessler
Tufted Titmouse	1	2	Derby	Powers
	22	3	Angola	O'Dell
Brown Creeper	14F	2	Eggertsville	McKales
Winter Wren	16F	1	Derby	Powers
	19	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Gray-ch. Thrush	28	1	Eggertsville	McKales
Eastern Bluebird	1	7	Derby	Powers
	1-30	3-10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	29	8	Town of Ward	Burtens
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	5	1	Wendt Beach, Evans	Andrle, Hausers
	25, 27	1, 1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Rew
Golden-cr. Kinglet	20F	3	Alfred	Brooks
	22	5	Angola	O'Dell
	22	11	Derby	Powers
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	7F	3	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	18	1	Alfred	Brooks
	19	1	York Corners	Brooks
Water Pipit	5F	43	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Rew et al
Blue-w. Warbler	3L	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Orange-cr. Warbler	5	1	Morgan's Point, Ont.	Rew, Schaffner
	25	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Rew
	28	1	Derby	Powers
Nashville Warbler	3F	1	Alfred	Brooks
	7, 9	1, 1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler	18F	1	Wellsville	Pitzrick
Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	10F	12	Derby	Powers
Cerulean Warbler	11L	2	Derby	Powers
Palm Warbler	9F	4	Derby	Powers
	19	3	York Corners	Brooks
Wilson's Warbler	5F, 8	1, 3	Alfred	Klingensmith
	6	3	Rock Pt. Prov. Pk.	Thills
Northern Oriole	16L	1	Wales	Rosche
Rusty Blackbird	18F	2	Derby	Powers

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
	September			
House Finch	1-30	8-10	Belmont	Burtons
	1-30	12-20	Eggertsville	McKales
	1-30	2-9	Amity Lake (F)	Pitzrick
	6,12	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	28	12	Wales	Rosche
Dark-eyed Junco	21F,26	2,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	22	4	Derby	Powers
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	28F,30	1,1	Belmont	Burtons
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	1	3	Derby	Powers
	25F	6	Tifft Farm N.P.	Rew
	28,30	1,2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year.....260

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue 4

Total for year.....264

OWLING

by John M.C. Peterson

Owling, or locating owls, requires a sense of adventure and considerable patience. There are seven species of owls known to breed in New York State and without a special effort by Atlas observers, the entire groups could be "under-recorded." We hope that most of our more than one thousand Atlas workers will try owling and help map the ranges of these interesting nocturnal birds. To succeed, we'll have to cooperate and share our ideas and experiences. The following ideas work, but we welcome further suggestions.

Lay some groundwork, first. Don't expect to stop along a country road, play an owl tape, and have a Barred Owl swoop in. This does happen, and it's the goal of owlers, but planning is important if the owl is to show up and pose in the flashlight beam. Decide first, based upon daytime study of a block, where to stop at night. Look for patches of low, wet woods, perhaps with cedars. Consider various woodlots and solid stands of pines. Locate places where upland woods and fields meet. Keep in mind traffic and parking, since both silence and safety are important.

Calling in owls can be done vocally or with a pre-recorded tape of owl calls. The first requires familiarity with at least a few calls, but limited experience suggests that it works well. Practice whistling Saw-whet and Screech, or vocally hooting Great Horned, Barred, and Long-eared. Even those who use a tape to call in owls enjoy drawing responses to their vocal imitations once the owls show up. Cassette recorders assure beginners that their calls are correct, and tapes are easy to make and use. In Region 7 a "master tape" was made and copies are distributed gratis to Atlas workers in return for a new blank tape, so that the project can remain self-sustaining. Each cassette has about a minute of each owl on one side, with rail calls on the reverse.

After deciding upon possible locations and the means of attracting owls, observers should next pick a good night. Humans may prefer warm, moonlit nights, but these conditions don't seem to matter much to owls. The key to success seems to be a quiet night with no wind, and owls seem most responsive after several windy or rainy nights, since silence is important to their hunting success. Spring brings breezes and rain, so when a quiet evening in April occurs, head out to look for owls.

April seems to be a good month. By the time initial searches have been rewarded and an observer begins to feel confident, the best owling season is ending. The toads, frogs, and insects are covering the night with a blanket of sound. Plan to go owling in early spring before this happens.

Plan an owling party with curious friends. Bravery is not as important as patience and a sense of humor in members of the group. Dress warmly, bring strong flashlights and warm beverages, and try to fit the expedition into one car, or at most two.

Stop at a previously selected spot and start giving owl calls. It might be a good idea to begin with the little owls and work up to the larger ones. Try Saw-whet followed by Barred at wet woods, or Screech, Long-eared, and then Great Horned where dry woods border fields. Play a series of calls at normal volume and then wait. Try again. Wait, Wait some more. Owlers can spend an entire spring rushing from place to place in frustration, or they can wait those extra few minutes in silence and suddenly have an owl answer. Be patient.

Remember, an owler is pretending to be an intruding owl moving into another bird's territory, and that territorial male is going to try to locate the intruder. As long as the interloper calls, the resident male can home in and try to find his rival by sight. Imagine what he sees: some humans huddled over the hood of a car, sharing a thermos of hot coffee. If silence falls on his domain, he'll be more likely to call or fly in to try to locate the interloper, often with his mate joining. Thus the "off" button may be more effective in attracting owls than in increase in volume.

Not every stop will produce an owl, and surprising things will happen. Right in the middle of a Great Horned Owl series of calls, a little owl - Screech or Saw-whet may fly by to investigate. Or a Barred Owl tape might be answered by a Long-eared. An area devoid of owls one night can seem like a congress of Great Horned the next (or the reverse may prove true). Later in the spring a Saw-whet tape may be answered by the bzeep of a woodcock; a tree frog, or the plaintive piping notes of a White-throated Sparrow. If owling were predictable, it wouldn't be as much fun. Much of the joy of owling is its very unpredictability. Eventual success means a "Possible-X" or perhaps a "Probable-P". A second night can upgrade that owl species to a "Probable-S."

During 1982, Atlas field work will reach the mid-point. If we're to succeed in mapping the ranges of our seven owl species as thoroughly as other birds, observers must cooperate in an intensive search for these nocturnal raptors this spring and summer. Good owling!

Reprinted from BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Projects for Birdwatchers

To give you the opportunity to become involved in birdwatching activities in addition to the March check on wintering species, the Research Committee is bringing to your attention projects that are all of special interest in the birdwatchers world.

1. Heronries Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology is interested in records of all heronries. Please report any herony in the B.O.S. area giving the location in detail and if known the (approximate) number of active nests - by 9/1/82.
2. Bluebird Trails Report the number of boxes in the trail, the percent used by bluebirds, and, their nesting success including the number of fledglings is known - by 10/1/82.
3. Hawk Migration Send in detailed report of any hawks seen crossing Lake Erie (getting around Buffalo over water or ice rather than overland) from March through May, noting time, weather information including wind direction and velocity. Also the species and number of hawks involved - by 7/1/82.
4. Shorebirds From July through October cunsus of all shorebirds will be made at least twice each week at the "St. Davids Cannery Ponds". The gates are open on weekdays and birdwatchers are welcome, but on weekends you will have to crawl under the gates to get in. Send in your report by 11/1/82.
5. Bird Banding All bird banders in the B.O.S. area are invited (or requested) to submit their banding data for publication in the Prothonotary - by 11/1/82.

All reports on projects 1-4 should be sent to W. Klabunde - 4923 Creek Rd. Lewiston, N.Y. 14092 (by dates noted for each project) to be summarized for publication in the Prothonotary.

Walter Klabunde
Chmn. Research Committee

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

- February 10 - Aspects of bird behavior which can be applied to human behavior. Presented by Marc J. Chelemer.
- February 24 - Symposium on female duck identification included - slides, skins, and discussion.
- March 10 - Dr. Harold Axtell will present a program on Hawk Identification.
- March 24 - The Common Tern. Presented by Ralph Morris.

Volume 47, Number 10-"Meetings"(con't.)

- April 14 - The species concept. Presented by Robert Klips.
April 28 - What's happening at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge? Presented by D.
May 12 - Demonstration and display of taxidermy by James Dorr of the Buffalo Museum of Science. There will also be a review of the April Count.
May 26 - Panel discussion on the identification of fall migrants.
June 9 - Picnic meeting at Fort Erie. Report of the May Count.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

- February 21 - Lake Ontario Plain. Leader: Walter Klabunde (774-4474). We will meet in the Tops Supermarket parking lot in Lewiston at 8:30 am. (Route 190 to Lewiston Exit, West on Route 104 to Tops).
March 7 - Annual Owl Excursion: Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:00 A.M., or the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge in Canada at 8:15 A.M. Leaders: Marcy Foster (674-8566); Blaine Farnan (416-834-7541).
March 28 - Oak Orchard and the sinks. We will meet at 8:00 A.M. in front of Citibank at the Transitown Plaza located at the intersection of Routes 5 and 78. Late joiners can meet us at 10:00 A.M. at the Cayuga Pool located on the north side of Route 77, west of the Town of Alabama.
April 25 - Braddock Bay and vicinity. Hawks are our goal but we have been known to turn up a rare bird or two (Townsend's Warbler; European Wigeon; Brewer's Blackbird). What will it be this year? Meet at Citibank in the Transitown Plaza at 6:30 A.M. for car pooling for the two hour (we stop along the way) drive to our destination where we will meet with birders of the Genesee Ornithological Society. Leader: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777).

PROGRAM: COUNTS

- April 28 - Our annual April Count will be coordinated by compiler Brad Lown (688-9433). Call Brad to get your favorite territory.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, N.Y. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127
Tel. 655-4777.

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

APR 29 1982

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

NOVEMBER 1981

NUMBER 11

THE MONTH

The weather in October was cloudy and damp with only 34% of possible sunshine recorded for the month. (The first eight days of the period brought only four hours of sunshine!) Precipitation measured 3.31 inches, all in the form of rain, at Greater Buffalo Airport, 0.30 inches above normal. The first heavy frost of the season occurred on October 12th and on the 19th there were snow flurries and squalls in the higher elevations south of Buffalo accompanying a sharp drop in temperature after five days of mild weather ended with rain and high winds buffeting the area. The month ended on a pleasant note with two fine days of belated Indian Summer. The average temperature for the month was 48.3°(F), a departure of -3.3° from the norm. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The first week in October witnessed the first major movement of the autumn of waterfowl into the area when sizeable flocks of scaup ducks and scoters were seen on the headwaters of the Niagara River at Fort Erie. Following a shift of winds to the northwest quadrant on October 7th, Common Loons were reported from several places in our study area including seven observed flying over the town of Hamburg within a few moments time. This cold front also produced the first major movement of such typical October passerine migrants as Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows. On October 18th, 6000 ducks, mostly Lesser Scaup, were seen on the reservoir of the power project at Niagara Falls. Among the waterfowl observed on Chautauqua Lake during the BOS October bird count on the 11th were 100 Ring-necked Ducks and 170 Redheads. On October 31st, Art Schaffner reported a concentration of 15,000 Canvasback ducks in the Niagara River above Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Aside from the major migration activity during October there were many interesting records. On October 7th, Ward Klepfer was able to obtain an excellent

look at an adult Peregrine Falcon, obligingly perched in a tree on the Thunder Bay road in the Town of Fort Erie before the bird took wing, flying in an easterly direction towards New York State. An Osprey, an uncommon fall migrant in these climes, was seen at Buckhorn Island State Park on Grand Island on October 13th. On a BOS field trip through the Oak Orchard area on October 25th, a Cattle Egret was reported on a pond on Roberts Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge.

On October 31st, Peter Yoerg reported a Purple Sandpiper on the breakwall of the Niagara River above the Peace Bridge. Robert Andrie was a member of a party of bird-watchers which participated in a pelagic field trip out of Youngstown, NY. on Lake Ontario on October 10th. Among the interesting birds seen on that trip were three Little Gulls and a Black-legged Kittiwake. A Parasitic Jaeger was reported on Lake Ontario off of Port Weller where it was observed chasing a gull on October 11th. On October 24th, Frances Rew and Lois Buck saw a Glaucous Gull in the company of a flock of Herring Gulls on a pier in Dunkirk Harbor, some two weeks earlier than the anticipated arrival date of this big white-winged larid in our study area. The Allegany County Bird Club News, vol. XV:11, December 1981, contains a note from Mr. A.J. Voorhies concerning two more sightings of Common Ravens in that county. On October 11th, the date of the BOS October bird count and again on October 15th, two birds were observed soaring over open meadows in a mixed hardwood-conifer wooded area in the Town of Friendship. The birds were clearly seen by Mr. Voorhies who is familiar with this species from a long period of residence in the State of Maine and also in the western part of the United States. He noted the characteristic large beak, the wedge-shaped tail and the guttural croaking call of this large corvid, all of which distinguish it from the Common Crow. 21 Chimney Swifts and 14 Rough-winged Swallows were among the flocks of migratory birds seen at Niagara Falls during the BOS count on October 11th.

The first reports of 'winter finches' in our study area are probably a flock of 40 Pine Siskins seen at Niagara-on-the-Lake and a flock of 35 siskins reported in the Town of Tonawanda on October 11th. Finally, on October 30th, Mary Batcheller and her co-workers at the Tiffit Farm Nature Preserve received a cage containing a small bittern from the Erie County SPCA. The bird, identified as a Least Bittern had been recovered from the grounds of the sprawling Bethlehem Steel Company complex in Lackawanna by workers who thought it was unable to fly. In any case, the cage was opened and the bird was released in the Nature Preserve marsh south of the water control structure where it soon disappeared among the cattails. Ms. Batcheller took excellent photographs of the bittern which incidentally were the first formal records of its occurrence in our study area this year.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent file of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year
 F - Indicates first record for the migration
 L - Indicates last record for the migration
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
October				
Common Loon	1	4	Derby	Powers
	4	1	Beaver Island, St. Pk.	McKales
	20	4	Town of Porter	Klabundes
	31	1	Navy Island, Ont.	Schaffner
Horned Grebe	20	17	Town of Porter	Klabundes
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	26	6	Buffalo	O'Dell
	29	3	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Burch
Green Heron	20L	1	Town of Porter	Klabundes
Whistling Swan	18F	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	25	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BOS)
	27, 28	1, 2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Snow Goose	1	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Gadwall	23	6	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Wood Duck	20	2	Alfred	Brooks
	16	5	Town of Wales	Rosche
Redhead	31	6	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Canvasback	31	15,000	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Ring-necked Duck	20	30	Bond Lake	Klabundes
Greater Scaup	20	4000	Town of Porter	Klabundes
Lesser Scaup	16, 23	17, 6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Common Goldeneye	20F	24	Town of Porter	Klabundes
Bufflehead	20	1	Town of Porter	Klabundes
	23	100	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Oldsquaw	20	5	Town of Porter	Klabundes
White-w. Scoter	4F-25	12	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	8, 16, 24	1, 3, 2	Amity Lake	Amity Lake
*Surf Scoter	4F	13	Buffalo Harbor	Andrle et al
	10, 23	1, 2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
	31	25	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
Ruddy Duck	20	2	Bond Lake	Klabundes
Hooded Merganser	25	20	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BOS)
Common Merganser	31	9	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Red-br. Merganser	15	680	Derby	Powers
Turkey Vulture	17	11	Belmont	Burtens
	18L	2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Sharp-sh. Hawk	1	15	over Derby	Powers
	8	1	Belmont	Burtens

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Cooper's Hawk	4-28	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	9	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	29	1	Dunkirk	Thill, Welch
	31	1	Town of Willing	Burtens
Red-tailed Hawk	1	20	over Derby	Powers
Broad-wing. Hawk	3	2	over Derby	Powers
	5	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Kelpfer
Rough-leg. Hawk	12F, 29	1, 1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	16	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	25	1	Town of Clarence	Christensen et al (BO
Bald Eagler	3	1	over Derby	Powers
Marsh Hawk	1	5	over Derby	Powers
	16	4	Town of Wales	Rosche
Osprey	5	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
*Peregrine Falcon	7	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Common Gallinule	23	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen
Killdeer	24	14	Dunkirk	Rew
	28	1	Belmont	Burtens
Black-bell. Plover	23	-	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Spotted Sandpiper	1-13L	2	Derby	Powers
Solitary Sandpiper	1-13L	1	Derby	Powers
Greater Yellowlegs	25	6	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BO
	31	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
Purple Sandpiper	31F	1	Buffalo, Bird Is. Pier	Yoerg
Dunlin	23	2	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
	23	50	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Franklin's Gull	31	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
Glaucous Gull	24F	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Gr. Black-b. Gull	24	53	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Little Gull	10	3	Fort Niagara S. Pk.	Andrle et al
Common Tern	31	55	Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	31	130	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	3L	1	Eggertsville	McKales
Red-bellied Wdpr.	22	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	25	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BO
Blue Jay	1	666	Derby	Powers
Common Raven	15	2	Town of Friendship	Voorhies
Black-c. Chickadee	1	129	Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	1	2	Derby	Powers
	4	1	Beaver Island St. Pk.	McKales
	15-29	2	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	17, 21	1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	23	3	Hamburg	O'Dell
	23	4	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
	29	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
Red-br. Nuthatch	1	11	Derby	Powers

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Winter Wren	7,25	1,1	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
	8,11,23	1,1,1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	10	1	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Long-b. Marsh Wren	25	1	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BOS)
Carolina Wren	15	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Mockingbird	20	1	Town of Porter	Klabundes
Brown Thrasher	1	2	Derby	Powers
American Robin	1	510	Derby	Powers
Hermit Thrush	4F	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	8	1	Eggertsville	McKales
Eastern Bluebird	1-31	2-15	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	9,13	7,7	Alfred	Klingensmith
	10,21,22	1,2,2,	Alfred	Brooks
	25	2	Iroquois NWR	Christensen et al (BOS)
Northern Shrike	20F	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Solitary Vireo	28	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Philadelphia Vireo	6L	1	Alfred	Brooks
Bl.-w. Warbler	8	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
Tennessee Warbler	10	2	Alfred	Brooks
Orange-cr. Warbler	27	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Nashville Warbler	8	2	Alfred	Brooks
Magnolia Warbler	8	2	Alfred	Brooks
Cape May Warbler	3	1	Alfred	Brooks
Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	21L	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
Yellow-r. Warbler	1-31	1-49	Alfred	Brooks
	12	12	Belmont	Burtons
	16	10	Town of Wales	Rosche
Hooded Warbler	3L	1	Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Rusty Blackbird	23	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Rose-br. Grosbeak	9	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Evening Grosbeak	8F-31	1-87	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	22,29	3,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	28	5	Belmont	Burtons
	29	20	Town of Wales	Rosche
Purple Finch	1-31	1-17	Alfred	Brooks
	1-31	1-15	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	25	6	Alfred	Klingensmith
	23	5	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
House Finch	1-31	14-22	Eggertsville (F)	McKales
	1-31	1-5	Alfred	Brooks
	1-31	2-8	Belmont	Burtons
	1-31	2-12	Amity Lake (F)	Pitzricks
	1-31	3,17-12	Eggertsville	Hulls
	5,9,20	8,10,20	Town of Wales	Rosche
Pine Siskin	22	10	Alfred	Brooks
White-w. Crossbill	22F	14	Alfred	Brooks

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Rufous-s. Towhee	5,7,9	5,3,3	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Tree Sparrow	29F	3	Alfred	Brooks
Chipping Sparrow	24,29,30	4,3,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
White-cr. Sparrow	1	8	Derby	Powers
	1,29	2,2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	2-31	1-12	Belmont	Burtens
White-Thr. Sparrow	1-11	5-30	Alfred	Klingensmith
	5-31	3-48	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	6	20	Town of Wales	Rosche
Fox Sparrow	15	1	Derby	Powers
	25,26,29	1,3,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	23	3	Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	29	3	Buffalo	O'Dell
	31	2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Swamp Sparrow	1	4	Derby	Powers
Snow Bunting	24F	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year.....264

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue..... 2

Total for year.....266

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of Fall Bird Count

Date: October 11, 1982

compiled by Bill Townsend

Weather: Variable clouds, high of 55°F., east wind 5 to 15 mph.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and submitted.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon	4(2)(19)(21)	American Wigeon	704
Horned Grebe	28	Northern Shoveler	33 (5)(23)
Pied-billed Grebe	56	Wood Duck	285
Double-cr. Cormorant	19(2)(20)	Red Head	170(5)(14)(23)
Great Blue Heron	79	Ring-necked Duck	135
Green Heron	6(11)(19)(28)	Greater Scaup	5,262
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	5(11)	Lesser Scaup	544(3)(23)
American Bittern	1(23)	Bufflehead	1(3)

Canada Goose	11,515	Old Squaw	22(2)
Mallard	4,805	White-winged Scoter	201
Black Duck	210	Surf Scoter	15(12)(23)
Gadwall	47	Black Scoter	2(3)(6)
Pintail	44	Ruddy Duck	73(3)(21)(23)
Green-winged Teal	83	Hooded Merganser	14(5)(9)(10)
Blue-winged Teal	88	Common Merganser	23
		Red-breasted Merganser	10(2)(4)(10)

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture	31	Marsh Hawk	50
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9	Osprey	6
Cooper's Hawk	9	American Kestrel	112
Red-tailed Hawk	192	Ruffed Grouse	90
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	Ring-necked Pheasant	50
Broad-winged Hawk	1(9)	Turkey	107
Rough-legged Hawk	1	Common Gallinule	13(10)(11)(20)
Bald Eagle	7(5)(12)	American Coot	1215

Shorebirds

Semipalmated Plover	9(7)	Greater Yellowlegs	15
Killdeer	685	Lesser Yellowlegs	11(2)(4)(19)
Black-bellied Plover	4(7)	Pectoral Sandpiper	10(2)(7)
American Woodcock	12	Dunlin	44(7)
Common Snipe	2(2)	Semipalmated Sandpiper	1(7)
		Sanderling	22(7)

Gulls - Flycatchers

Parasitic Jaeger	1(2)	Common Nighthawk	1(23)
Gr. Black-backed Gull	88	Chimney Swift	24(2)(22)
Herring Gull	8,110	Belted Kingfisher	54
Ring-billed Gull	16,010	Common Flicker	110
Franklin's Gull	1(9)	Pileated Woodpecker	7
Bonaparte's Gull	2,262	Red-bellied Woodpecker	14(13)(19)(26)
Little Gull	1(3)	Red-headed Woodpecker	6(3)(9)(28)
Common Tern	2665(2)(3)(5)	Yellow-b. Sapsucker	11
Rock Dove	2,585	Hairy Woodpecker	71
Mourning Dove	1,597	Downy Woodpecker	241
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	1(4)	Eastern Phoebe	23
Screech Owl	9	Eastern Wood Pewee	3(15)(28)
Great Horned Owl	15		

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark	13	Winter Wren	5
H. Lark (praticola)	94	Carolina Wren	2(12)
Tree Swallow	128	Mockingbird	7(1)(2)(28)
Rough-winged Swallow	19(2)(5)	Gray Catbird	42
Blue Jay	1,600	Brown Thrasher	1(22)
Common Crow	2,742	American Robin	4,076
Common Raven	2	Hermit Thrush	25
Black-c. Chickadee	1,391	Swainson's Thrush	5
Tufted Titmouse	15	Eastern Bluebird	97
White-breasted Nuthatch	307		
Red-breasted Nuthatch	75		
Brown Creeper	66		
House Wren	4(14)(15)(19)		

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Golden-cr. Kinglet	261	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1,056
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	225	Blackburnian Warbler	5(14)(15)(23)
Water Pipit	173	Chestnut-s. Warbler	2(9)
Cedar Waxwing	804	Blackpoll Warbler	2(15)(28)
Starling	20,407	Pine Warbler	2(9)
Solitary Vireo	2(10)(13)	Palm Warbler	1(26)
Red-eyed Vireo	3(13)(28)	Common Yellowthroat	7
Bl.-and-wh. Warbler	2(9)(27)	House Sparrow	4,232
Tennessee Warbler	5(10)(28)		
Orange-cr. Warbler	1(28)		
Nashville Warbler	2(20)(21)		
Magnolia Warbler	11(15)(19)(21)		
Cape May Warbler	1(23)		
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	1(11)		

Blackbirds - Finches

Eastern Meadowlark	246	American Goldfinch	1,149
Red-w. Blackbird	20,813	Rufous-sided Towhee	34
Rusty Blackbird	434	Savannah Sparrow	336
Common Grackle	5,269	Vesper Sparrow	21
Brown-headed Cowbird	610	Dark Eyed Junco	1,513
Scarlet Tanager	1(10)	Chipping Sparrow	200
Cardinal	374	Field Sparrow	89
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	11	White-crowned Sparrow	350
Evening Grosbeak	16(19)(21)(28)	White-throated Sparrow	1,242
Purple Finch	188	Fox Sparrow	9
House Finch	358	Lincoln's Sparrow	3(9)(28)
Pine Siskin	100	Swamp Sparrow	50
		Song Sparrow	1,143
			1,513

Total Species: 151
Total Individuals: 133,554

Comments:

Noteworthy observations were a Rough-legged Hawk a day early in Section Four and two Common Ravens in Section Twenty-six.

The following eight species were low compared to the last 10 years: Common Snipe (2), Common Flicker (110), House Wren (4), Winter Wren (5), Starling (20,407), Brown-headed Cowbird (610), Chipping Sparrow (89), and White-throated Sparrow (1,242).

The following sixteen species were high compared to the last 10 years: Double-crested Cormorant (19), Mallard (4,805), Northern Shoveler (33), Redhead (170), Greater Scaup (5,626), White-winged Scoter (201), Bald Eagle (7), Marsh Hawk (50), Ruffed Grouse (90), Rock Dove (2,585), Mourning Dove (1,597), Red-bellied Woodpecker (14), White-breasted Nuthatch (307), Red-breasted Nuthatch (75), Cardinal (374) and House Finch (358).

Sections and Observers: Many thanks are given to the section compilers and observers who combined to make this October Count a success. In the listing that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | <u>Gary Novosel</u> |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Robert F. Andrie, Marcya N. Foster</u> |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Harriette and Walter Klabunde, David Cooper</u> |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock, Robert Klips, Bonnie Hernish, March Chelemer</u> |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, John Morse, Marion Smith</u> |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Art Schaffner</u> |
| 7. Lowbanks, Ont. | not covered |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Bill Townsend</u> |
| 9. Grand Island, NY. | <u>Karen Renning, Margaret and Jack Wright, Donna Armst</u> |
| 10. Akron, NY. | <u>Bob Wagner</u> |
| 11. Buffalo, NY. | <u>Michael Zebehazy, Peggy Daniels, Bill and Alice McKale, Bob and Pauline Schwartz, Ed Fessler</u> |
| 12. Lancaster, NY. | <u>Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Irma, Bill, Dorothy and Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Gertrude Ruggles, Wanda and Emmet Sweet, Gertrude Webster, Cy and Bernice Wolfling.</u> |

13. gatavia, NY Max and Jane Masor, Elva Hawken, Dave Keller,
Don Thuray, Bob and Eileen Hull, Dave Whitcomb,
Marge Pixley
14. Hamburg, NY. Barbara Walker, Betty Wilson, Barbara Howard,
Lois and Pete Matlock, Thelma Pikett, Bernice
Reinhart, Mr. & Mrs. Mauser, Pat Firey & son,
Peter Palmer, Mrs. Bacon, Erma Kern, Agnes and
Bob Orefeo plus six birdfeeders.
15. Java, NY. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Dave Junki
16. Angola, NY Brad Lown
17. Cattaraugus, NY. Audrey Horbett, Carolyn Frank, Rae Uhl
18. Delevan, NY. Jane and Don Clark
19. Fillmore, NY. Katherine Palmer, Velma Baker, Mr. and Mrs.
Les Fish, Mr. & Mrs. Brooks Main, Marjorie Main,
John Nelson, Jean Perry, Mr. & Mrs. Emmette Smith,
Mr. & Mrs. H.K. Smith, Royal Smity, Chinta Winehip,
Victor Carpenter, Andrew Mellen, James Mullen,
Larry Wilson, Faye Claney, Harland Hale
20. Dunkirk, NY Frances M. Rew, Lois Buck
21. Cherry Creek, NY Robert Sundell, Marjorie Anderson, Otto and Gretche
Carlson, Calla and Jennie Freeman, David Gagne,
Julia Heilman, Lewis Kibler, Dorothy Pihlblad,
Katherine Porter, Robert Price, Carol Roby, Marion
Werner
22. Sherman, NY Robert Sundell, David Gagne, Robert Price
23. Frewsburg, NY. Robert Sundell, Carl Belknap, David Gagne, Stephen
Maggio, Robert and Mary Schaul, Thomas Simmons,
Thomas Simmons Jr.
24. Allegany S.P., NY no report
25. Allegany, NY. no report
26. Cuba, NY. Doris Burton, Betty Compton, Lou Burton, John
Compton, Dustin Flemming, Margaret Hand, Alfred
Voorhies, Sharon Baumgardner
27. Bolivar, NY. Doris Burton, Celestia K. Abbott, Helen K. Apsey,
Dolly Hawkins, Helen Link, Doris Hurlburt, Lillian
Simons, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Richmond, Frances DeGrol

28. Alfred, NY

Lorry Chapman, Dorothy and Warren Bouck, Betsy and Warren Brooks, Glenn Bucher, Lois Chapman, Harriette and Larry Deuvall, Ann Eisenhardt, Eva Ford, Barbara Keough, Margaret and Clarence Klingensmith, Sue Leamer, Cathy MacDonald, Beverly Perry, Peggy and Dan Rose, Suzanne Wood

Dorothy Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Sonja and Tara Brink, Susan, Carolyn and Jim Copenheaver, David Hardy, Mildred Hayes, Viola Ide, Lynn Phelan, Pauline Sanford, Violet Sharrett, Lauren and Maureen Soule, Allen and Gladys Witter

Connor Stephens, Bea Common, Wisner Cook, Kathy and Tom Kent, Ken and Marion McClure, Jim Ninos, Mrs. Alan Tuttle

Vera Brown, Evelyn and Dale Coats, Mary Alice and Paul Fuller, Genevieve and Martin McQueen, Patt Pratt, Lynn and Ernest Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Lorena and Theodore Vossler.

Vivian Pitzrick, Doris and Lou Burton, Roberta Clark Sandra, Lloyd, Kevin and Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Mary Jordan

Erma Larson, Carl and Betty Burdick, Fred and Estelle Cronauer, George Dunham, Christine Ferrand Dolly Hawkins, Helen Link, Jon and Amy Palmer, Ona and Douglas Roberts, Bruce and Wilma Taggart, Gordon and Wilma Taggart.

Total Observers: 228

31 Brenor Rd., N. Tonawanda, NY. 14120

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT - 1982

After two very successful years of field work we are launching into a third which looks as if it will give us a good insight into our prospects for satisfactorily completing coverage of Region 1 in this five-year project. Over 100 enthusiastic birders have surveyed in over 270 blocks. They have tallied more than 50 species in each of 118 blocks and over 75 in some. Also, they have recorded 167 of a possible 183 species that have been known to breed in our region and confirmed breeding for 141. This is a fine effort and I congratulate all of you. Now we need persistence in those already surveying and new participants more than ever, especially to cover the remaining 350 blocks, add to those we have worked in (50 blocks have less than 25 species and 96 have between 26 and 50 species), and upgrade to higher breeding categories.

As thorough coverage as possible of all blocks in the region is our goal. The better we can accomplish this the more detailed and accurate will be the resulting

species distribution maps that will eventually be published. We need more birders to survey in the areas where many blocks remain uncovered, such as in northern Niagara and Orleans Counties, northern and southern Chautauqua County and its Lake Erie Plain, in northern, eastern and western Cattaraugus County, and in parts of western Genesee and Wyoming Counties.

Here is a fascinating research project which many can join and from which much can be learned. If you do not think that you can take on a whole block (5 x 5 kilometers or about 3 x 3 miles), then you can cover only a part of one or join with others. Any amount of surveying including individual records will contribute. Remember, you do not need to find nests to confirm a species. You can accomplish this by seeing parents carrying food or fledged young later in the season. Also, each year you need only include species new to a block and those which you have upgraded to a higher breeding category. Computer printouts will be available with results from 1981.

My thanks and appreciation go to all of you for your excellent efforts. Please contact me if you have any questions or problems or if you wish to participate for the first time this year. Let us all make this a banner year of accomplishment. Good birding and good atlasing!

Robert F. Andrie
Regional Coordinator
Buffalo Museum of Science
Humboldt Parkway
Buffalo, New York 14211

BOS FIELD TRIPS REVISITED

October 25 Field Trip to Oak Orchard and Surrounding Areas.

In spite of October's generally disappointing weather, we could not have been blessed with a finer day for this trip. Following a rather tortuous route through the countryside (someone wanted to know if we knew where we were going), we arrived at the Cayuga Pool Overlook where John Morse, a wildlife biologist at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, met us. Along Draper Road we were lucky to see eight Dunlin close by in a field near a sod farm. In the same area both the prairie and northern races of Horned Lark were seen. After observing a lone Whistling Swan at the overlook, John Morse led us into the interiors of both the Iroquois and Oak Orchard refuge, which are normally inaccessible to the public at this time of year. To our great delight, at our first stop along Feeder Canal Road, two Bluebirds, two Red-headed Woodpeckers and a Red-bellied Woodpecker appeared almost simultaneously. Next we went along a service road leading past North Marsh, some paddies, and Windmill Marsh in the Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Areas. Interestingly, despite no Sunday hunting, the North Marsh and paddies were virtually avian desserts. Here we did see our single warbler, a Myrtle-oops! a yellow-rumped.

John did not seem concerned about the lack of waterfowl. He predicted there would be plenty when we got to Windmill Marsh, where hunting had not been

allowed. At Windmill Marsh, we got out of our cars and walked through a pleasant area to observe the birds. With the bright sun, blue sky and water, and warm breezes we observed Wigeons, Shovelers, Canvasbacks, Mergansers, Buffleheads, and Ruddies in their brilliant colors. If we had not left our cars, the Marsh Wren would have been missed. Leaving this beautiful area, we drove to the parking overlook at Goose Pond (Stafford's Pond) to see the eagles. They were recently released in an attempt to restore an eagle population to New York State. No eagles were seen at first. Then a large raptor appeared behind us. Someone shouted, "There's the eagle." Eagerly our binoculars swung around and many people saw different things. Some saw the yellow identification mark placed on the eagle's wing. Others saw, not an eagle, but a Red-tailed Hawk. They claimed the yellow mark was the product of our wishful thinking. To some, the bird appeared dark; to others, light. There was no real consensus. Finally the bird disappeared leaving us in our collective confusion -- and excitement.

Departing for home, four observers in one car sighted a Cattle Egret along Robert's Road. It was a first sighting for me. Since the egret was up close, the viewing was excellent. Even without experts along I was confident I would have been able to identify it. It made my day!

Dick Christensen

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, September through June, inclusive, in the Society's club rooms at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

- April 14 - The species concept. Speaker: Robert Klips of the BOS.
- April 28 -- Demonstration and display of taxidermy presented by James Dorr of the Buffalo Museum of Science.
- May 12 - What's Happening at Iroquois NWR? Presented by John Morse. Also included will be a report on the April Count.
- May 26 - Panel discussion on the identification of fall migrants.
- June 9 - Our traditional picnic meeting at Fort Erie is our last get-together before the summer break (from meetings, not birding). We will begin at 6:30 p.m. and hope to include a report on the May Count. Bring dinner and binoculars for some birding along the lake shore.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

- April 25 - Braddock Bay and vicinity. Hawks are our goal but we have been known to turn up a rare bird or two (Townsend's Warbler; European Wigeon; Brewer's Blackbird). What will it be this year? Meet at Citibank in the Transitown Plaza at 6:30 a.m. for car pooling for the two hour (we stop along the way) drive to our destination where we will meet with birders of the Genesee Ornithological Society. Leader: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777).

- May 2 - Sunday. To Grimsby for hawks. We will meet at the Queenston/Lewiston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424).
- May 8,9 - Presque Isle/Pymatuning weekend. This Mother's Day weekend event is regularly filled with a great variety of migrating species, particularly warblers and other passerines, and includes a trip to one of the few Bald Eagle nest sites in our relative vicinity. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for further information and to make reservations.
- May 23 - Sunday. Tifft Farm for warblers and other migrants. Meet in the parking lot of Tifft Farm at 6:30 a.m. We will hike into the preserve and spend the early hours in the willows and then look over the marsh and the ponds. Later, we'll make our way to Times Beach and the Buffalo Harbor. Leader: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777).

PROGRAM - COUNTS

- April 18 - Annual April Count. (Date in the October issue is incorrect.) Sunday. Compiler Brad Lown will coordinate the coverage of the BOS territories for this event. Call him at 688-9433 for your favorite territory, or to join someone else.
- May 16 - Sunday. Tom Harper is the compiler for this Annual May Count. Call him in Darien at 1-547-9563 to volunteer your eyes and ears for this interesting and rewarding experience.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127. (655-4777).

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT A. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

SEP 1 1982

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 47

DECEMBER 1981

NUMBER 12

THE MONTH

The halcyon days of late October lingered into November with a week of warm and sunny weather. The high temperature for the month, 69°(F) was recorded on November 5th. Although temperatures became more seasonable following heavy rain on the 6th, the weather for the remainder of the month was generally placid with the single exception of November 29th when gale force winds and snow squalls hit the Niagara Frontier. There was no significant snowfall in the vicinity of Buffalo or the Lake Plains in November but in the higher elevations of the Southern Tier counties there was some accumulation of snow during weather disturbances on the 6th, the 21st and the 29th; there was little melting following the storm on November 21st. The average temperature for the month was 40.4°(F), 0.6° above the norm and precipitation at Buffalo Airport measured only 2.33 inches, 1.52 inches below normal for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

November is the month when the influx of gulls on the Niagara River and on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario is the center of attraction for most local bird-watchers. On November 7th, 25,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted in the Niagara River between Queenston and Niagara Falls, Ontario with four Little Gulls and a Franklin's Gull among them. On November 11th, Robert Curry of Hamilton, Ontario reported an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull on a rocky islet just above the brink of the Horseshoe Falls at Niagara Falls, Ontario. The bird, with the characteristic dark slate grey mantle and chrome yellow legs contrasted rather sharply with the Herring and Ring-billed Gulls standing with it. On this date also, Bob Curry observed two Thayer's Gulls flying and resting at the old power plant on the Canadian side of the gorge below the Falls, one a second year bird and the other an adult with the typical much reduced black coloration on the upper surfaces of the outer primary feathers, the most obvious character separating the species from the Herring Gulls. As if the foregoing observations were not exciting enough for one day, Curry also reported a Blackheaded Gull in winter plumage at Queenston. This bird or a similar individual was subsequently seen by

a host of observers from Ontario and New York throughout November. Other records received from Bob Curry include one or possibly two Black-headed Gulls at Niagara Falls on November 22nd and four first winter, immature Black-legged Kittiwakes on the Niagara River between Niagara-on-the-Lake and Fort Erie, Ontario between the 14th and the 22nd.

There were many observations during November which merit mention here. All three species of scoter ducks were reported in the Niagara River. The only record of Brant for the migration this fall was that of three birds seen by Bruce Duncan at Rock Point Provincial Park on the Lake Erie shore southeast of Dunnville. An adult male Barrow's Goldeneye, presumed to be the same bird seen at the same location during the past three winters, was reported again by several observers from the rapids of the upper river across from Dufferin Island and at a nearby water impoundment in Niagara Falls, Ontario. 43 Hooded Mergansers were seen on a pond at Mayville in Chautauqua County during a BOS field trip on November 2th. Female King Eiders were reported by Grace O'Dell from Buffalo Harbor on November 9th and by Bob Curry and others from Lake Ontario at Fort Niagara State Park on November 22nd. Three immature Bald Eagles, believed to be part of the number of these birds banded and released in the New York State Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area in Genesee County in July, (See Prothonotary, vol. 47:3, 1981, pg. 98.) were seen at that location on November 1st and November 4th. A very late Baird's Sandpiper was seen at the cannery ponds at St. David's Ontario by a party of bird-watchers from Hamilton, Ontario on November 11th and the bird was still there on the 14th. The first Snowy Owl of the season was reported from the Tiffit Farm Nature Preserve on November 13th with one or two other owls seen on the Buffalo waterfront during the month. It is obviously not a flight year for this species. On November 14th, Ed Fessler saw two Bohemian Waxwings with a large flock of Cedar Waxwings in a wooded area of Fort Niagara State Park. Their larger size, grey color, the white area on the wings and the rust under their tails were quite distinctive as they perched in the bare branch of a tree unmindful of human scrutiny. On the following day, Bob Andrie and others participating in a joint BOS - Genesee Ornithological Society field trip saw one of these birds with the Cedar Waxwings in the same area.

The first reports of movement of winter finches into the area were received in November although no major irruption of any species was discernable. On November 1st, a flock of 25 White-winged Crossbills was seen by Frances Rew in the Town of Charlootte in Chautauqua County and on the following day a flock of 17 of these birds was reported flying over Jamestown in that county. Bob Curry reported 70 White-winged Crossbills in two flocks at Niagara Falls, Ontario on November 21st. On November 22nd, four Pine Grosbeaks, the rarest of all our winter finch visitants, were seen by Dave Freeland and a party of Pennsylvania bird-watchers at the Oakland Rural Cemetery in the Town of Porter in Niagara County.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year

F - Indicates first record for the migration

L - Indicates last record for the migration

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Common Loon	1-30	7	Derby	Powers
	1	1	Navy Island, Ont.	McKales
	21	2	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Barbers
	29	1	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	McKales
Pied-billed Grebe	8	2	Derby	Powers
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	8	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	McKales
Whistling Swan	1-30	208	Derby	Powers
	8	17	Chautauqua Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
	22	40	over Orchard Park	McKales
	22	40	Town of Westfield	Freeland
Brant	28	3	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Duncan
	29	3	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Curry
Snow Goose	13	1	Oak Orchard GMA	Rew et al
			(blue morph)	
Redhead	8	300	Chautauqua Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	8	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
	11,21	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
King Eider	9	1	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	22	1	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Curry et al
White-w. Scoter	1-27	2	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	29	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Barbers
Surf Scoter	16	4	Derby	Powers
	21	2	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Barbers
Black Scoter	1-30	8	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
	21	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland
Ruddy Duck	8	1	Cassadaga Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
Hooded Merganser	8	44	Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
	22	1	Niagara Falls	Freeland et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	26	1	Alfred	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	1-30	1	Belmont	Burtons
	15	1	Eggertsville	Hulls
	23	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rough-legged Hawk	7	1	Town of Angelica	Burtons
	13	2	Oak Orchard GMA	Rew et al
	15	1	Town of Alfred	Brooks
	20	1	Town of Cambria	McKales
	22	1	Grand Island	Freeland et al
	25	1	West Almond	Pitzricks
	30	1	Batavia	Freeland

Volume 47, Number 12-"Noteworthy Records"(con't.)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Bald Eagle	13	1	Oak Orchard GMA	Rew et al
	14	1	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Fessler
	(both immature)			
Killdeer	29	2	Grant Point, Ont.	Curry
Greater Yellowlegs	2	7	Cuba Lake	Pitzricks
	11	1	St. David's, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
	13L	2	Iroquois NWR	Rew et al
Lesser Yellowlegs	13L	1	Iroquois NWR	Rew, et al
W.-rump. Sandpiper	4L	2	Rock Point Prov.Pk.	Duncan
Baird's Sandpiper	11L	1	St. David's, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
Dunlin	21	5	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry et al
Purple Sandpiper	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew
Glaucous Gull	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry
Iceland Gull	21F	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry et al
	23	1	Derby	Powers
Iceland Gull	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
*(L.g. Kumlien)				
Lesser Black-b. Gull	11	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
Black-headed Gull	11, 14	1, 1	Queenston, Ont.	Curry et al
	15	1	Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al (BOS)
	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
Franklin's Gull	11	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
	11	1	Adam Beck Hydro	Curry, Olmsted
	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, et al
	14, 22	1, 1	Adam Beck Hydro	Curry et al
	22	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland et al
Little Gull	11	5	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
	11	5	Queenston, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
	22	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Freeland, et al
	22	4	Queenston, Ont.	Freeland et al
	29	2	Queenston, Ont.	McKales
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	14	1	Queenston, Ont.	Curry, McLaughlin
	21	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry et al
	22	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Curry et al
Common Tern	11L	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry, Olmsted
Snowy Owl	13F	1	Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
	20, 25	1, 1	Times Beach, Bflo	O'Dell
	27	1	Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
Common Flicker	1, 1-30	18	Derby	Powers
	1, 6, 16	1, 1, 1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	2, 10	1, 1	Buffalo	O'Dell
	6	1	Grand Island	O'Dell
	16	1	Eggertsville	Hulls
	26	1	Town of Collins	O'Dell
	28	1	Queenston, Ont.	O'Dell
	29	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Somerville

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	1,21,30	1,1,1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	13	1	Oak Orchard GMA	Rew et al
	13	2	Iroquois MVR	Rew et al
Red-headed Wdpkr.	8	1	Derby	Powers
Tufted Titmouse	1-30	4	Derby	Powers
	1-30	1-3	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	8-30	1-2	Elma	Forsberg
	8	2	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew et al (BOS)
Carolina Wren	21	1	Queenston, Ont.	Curry et al
	24	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	29	1	Grant Point, Ont.	Curry et al
Mockingbird	4	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	6	1	Grand Island	O'Dell
	9-20	1	Depew	Barbers
	10	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
	22	1	Wilson	O'Dell
	22	1	Queenston, Ont.	Freeland et al
	28	1	Queenston, Ont.	O'Dell
American Robin	1-30	113	Derby	Powers
Eastern Bluebird	4,7,14	3,1,2	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	26	5	Town of Collins	O'Dell
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	22L	1	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	O'Dell
Bohemian Waxwing	14	2	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Fessler
	15	1	Fort Niagara St.Pk.	Andrle et al (BOS)
Northern Shrike	15	1	Grand Island	Fessler
	21	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	22	1	Darien Center	Harper
	22	1	Lancaster	McKales
	26	1	Town of Porter	Fessler
	29	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	30	2	Town of Portland	Freeland
Yellow-r. Warbler	1L	3	Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
	1L	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
Pal Warbler	1L	1	Alfred	Brooks
Evening Grosbeak	1-24	1-28	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	1-30	1-30	Alfred	Brooks
	13	6	Oak Orchard GMA	Pitzrick
	15,26	2,20	Belmont	Burtens
	19,24	4,15	Town of Wales	Rosche
	21-23	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	28	22	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Barbers
	30	12	Elma	Forsberg
House Finch	1-12	1-11	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	1-30	8-15	Eggertsville	Hulls
	1	2	Mayville	Rew, Buck
	1-30	15-25	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	1-30	2-6	Belmont	Burtens
	21	20	Town of Wales	Rosche

<u>Species</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Observer</u>
Pine Grosbeak	22	4	Town of Porter	Freeland et al
Common Redpoll	25F, 26	36, 35	Alfred	Brooks
Pine Siskin	21-30	2	Town of Wales	Rosche
White-w. Crossbill	1-24	8-37	Alfred	Brooks
	1	25	Town of Charlotte	Rew
	21	70	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Curry et al
Tree Sparrow	7-24	1-8	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	7-30	1-12	Belmont	Burtens
	26	1	Elma	Forsberg
Chipping Sparrow	7L	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Fox Sparrow	1	2	Alfred	Brooks
	8L	6	Frewsburg	McKales et al
	13	1	Iroquois NWR	Rew et al
	1-6	2-6	Belmont	Burtens
	2	1	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	1	1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	1-30	29	Derby	Powers
	1-10	3	Darien Center (f)	Harper
	3	3	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	21	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	26	2	Town of Somerset	Fessler

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year..... 266

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue..... 1

Total for year..... 267

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

- April 25 - Braddock Bay and vicinity. Hawks are our goal but we have been known to turn up a rare bird or two.
- May 2 - Sunday. To Grimsby for hawks. We will meet at the Queenston/Lewiston Bridge parking lot on the American side of the river at 8:30 A.M. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424).
- May 8,9 - Presque Isle/Pymatuning weekend. This Mother's Day weekend event is regularly filled with a great variety of migrating species, particularly warblers and other passerines, and includes a trip to one of the few Bald Eagle nest sites in our relative vicinity. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for further information and to make reservations.
- May 23 - Sunday. Tiffet Farm for warblers and other migrants. Meet in the parking lot of Tiffet Farm at 6:30 A.M. We will hike into the preserve and spend the early hours in the willows and then look over the marsh and the ponds. Later, we'll make our way to Times Beach and the Buffalo Harbor. Leader: Mike Zebehazy (655-4777).

PROGRAM - COUNTS

- May 16 - Sunday. Tom Harper is the compiler for this Annual May Count. Call him in Darien at 1-547-9563 to volunteer your eyes and ears for this interesting and rewarding experience.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

- April 28 - Demonstration and display of taxidermy presented by James Dorr of the Buffalo Museum of Science.
- May 12 - What's Happening at Iroquois NWR: Presented by John Morse. Also included will be a report on the April Count.
- May 26 - Panel discussion on the identification of fall migrants.
- June 9 - Our traditional picnic meeting at Fort Erie is our last get-together before the summer break (from meetings, not birding). We will begin at 6:30 P.M. and hope to include a report on the May Count. Bring dinner and binoculars for some birding along the lake shore.

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill 36 Allegany Ave. Kenmore, NY. 14217

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify the treasurer, Ms. Peggy Daniels at 18 Concord Drive, Buffalo, NY. 14215.

BACK ISSUES: Available at fifty cents per copy from the treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy 1469 E. Quaker Rd. Orchard Park, NY. 14127.

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

INDEX TO VOLUME 47 (JANUARY - DECEMBER 1981)

APR 19 1985

Bird records from the Noteworthy Records of The Prothonotary and the B.O.S. Bird Counts requiring written verification according to the 'Date Guide to the Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) are included in this index.

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Bunting, Painted	80	<u>Field Trips:</u>	
Crane, Sandhill	16	Niagara Loop	12
Dowitcher, Lg-bl.	114	Oak Orchard Area	137
Falcon, Peregrine	129		
Flycatcher, Acadian	77	<u>Bird Counts:</u>	
Goldeneye, Barrow's	3,17,35,52,74,142	Christmas Count, B.O.S.	8
Goldfinch, European	21	January Waterfowl Count	23
Goshawk	57,99	April Count	67
Grosbeak, Pine	83	May Count	80
Gull, Black-headed	4,143	Fish & Wildlife Breeding	
, Ivory	19	Bird Count	106
, Lesser Black-bk.	19,143	Fall Bird Count	131
, Sabine's	121		
, Kumlien's, L.g.	143	<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>	
Kittiwake, Bl.-lg.	121,143	Andrle, Robert	136
Raven, Common	78,129,133	Balmas, Kenneth	8
Ruff	99	Brooks, Elizabeth	16,105,106
Sandpiper, Buff-br.	114	Burch, William	13
, Western	99,114	Christensen, Richard	137
Sparrow, Clay-colored	93	Clark, Donald	25,40
Vireo, White-eyed	78	Harper, Thomas	80
Warbler, Black-thr. gray	7	Horbett, Audrey	116
, Laurence's	93	Klabunde, Walter	100,106,124
Waxwing, Bohemian	20	Lown, Bradley	67
		Peterson, John	122
<u>POEM</u>		Pitzrick, Vivian	86,87,94
Ode to an Oriole	49	Powers, David	45,49
		Reckhow, Alan	25
<u>FEATURE ARTICLES</u>		Renning, Karen	31,47,55,66
Breeding Bird Atlas Project, 1982	136	Schwartz, Pauline	13
Bird Banding, Farmersville, 1980	25,40	Thill, Joseph	1,15,33,50,57,74,91
The Blackbirds are Coming	45		97,112,118,126,140
Fifty-year Members honored	64	Townsend, William	131
Owling	122	Wendling, Marie	64
Projects for Bird Watchers	124	Williams, Edward	67
Spring Hawk Migration	100	<u>NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>	
March Wintering Bird Census	115	Color-marked Atlantic Brant	13
The Month	1,15,33,50,57,73	Canada Goose Round-up	66
	97,112,118,126,140	Minutes of the B.O.S.	
Second Clay-colored Sparrow	105	Meetings	31,47,55,66
Golden-winged Warbler Nest	87	B.O.S. New Members and	
Prairie Warbler's Nest	86	Address Changes	116
Postscript on Prairie Warbler	95	Common Tern Color Marking	66



THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

SEP 8 1982

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

JANUARY 1982

NUMBER 1

THE MONTH

December was cloudy and cool with no major weather disturbances. The average temperature for the month was 29.0° (F), 1.1° above the norm. Precipitation measured 2.87 inches at Buffalo International Airport with snow accumulation for the period only 24.8 inches, the heaviest falls on the 10th (6.1 inches) and on the 28th (3.2 inches). Snowfall was considerably heavier in the higher elevations south of Buffalo. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The ornithological event of the month was the discovery of a Gannet in Dunkirk Harbor on December 5th. The bird, an immature specimen, was discovered by Doug Carlson of Jamestown resting on the water near the public pier there. It was also observed flying and its conical bill, long narrow wings and wedge-shaped tail were clearly visible. The Gannet was subsequently seen by many observers in Dunkirk Harbor in the following weeks. This bird is a very rare late fall and winter visitor on Lake Erie in our study area and occurs only slightly more commonly on Lake Ontario. On the date of the bird's discovery in Dunkirk Harbor, other species seen there include a Double-crested Cormorant, three Little Gulls and a flock of 3,000 Bonaparte's Gulls. Dunkirk Harbor is a bird-watcher's delight during the cold Western New York winter. The presence of the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation's generating station at this site has resulted in a continual recirculation of warm water into the harbor, making it largely ice-free all winter. It is a veritable oasis of open, nutrient rich water on the bleak, ice bound Lake Erie shore and not surprisingly it has attracted a host of gulls, ducks and other water birds resulting in many interesting records.

The weekend of December 5th and 6th was a spectacular one for gull watching on the Niagara River. Among the thousands of gulls there assembled, observers reported an adult Black-headed Gull, presumably the same bird seen regularly in the gorge between Queenston and Niagara Falls. An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen by many observers while it was perched on the roof of the water intake at the Adam Beck power station and flying among the Herring

and Ring-billed Gulls there. Bob Andrie also reported two 'queer' gulls flying about at this location, one presumably a Greater Black-backed x Herring Gull hybrid and the second a presumed Glaucous x Herring Gull hybrid. An estimated 70,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were reported on the river this weekend with the biggest concentration at Queenston. Relatively few Little Gulls were reported from the Niagara River this fall.

Other interesting records for the month include several flocks of Canada Geese totaling approximately 1,000 birds observed by the writer and his son flying westward over the Lower Lake Road in the Town of Somerset in Niagara County on December 23rd. The geese had taken off from Lake Ontario at Golden Hill Camp Ground in the company of hundreds of Mallards and Black Ducks. A female Common Eider was seen by several observers upriver from the Coast Guard Station at Fort Niagara State Park during the month. This bird, first reported on November 26th, was thought to have an injured wing. An immature male King Eider was seen throughout the month in the gorge below the Horseshoe Falls at Niagara Falls, Ontario. Still another report of the occurrence of the Common Raven in Allegany County was received in December. Elizabeth Brooks writes that while conducting a winter bird population census in a 41 acre upland mixed pine-spruce-hardwood plantation at the junction of Vandermark and Brown Roads in the Town of Ward, she heard the familiar guttural croak of this species although not actually seeing the bird. The location is the same where two previous sightings of ravens occurred.

As of December 31st, there are virtually no records of American Robins wintering on the Niagara Frontier this season although one, seen by Elizabeth Brooks in the Town of Alfred on December 15th, was in full song! The writer, in the course of several trips afield grouse hunting this fall, noted the absence of fruit in the abandoned apple orchards he traversed and it would be interesting to know if there were similar failures of other fruit bearing shrubs and trees to account for the reversal of the trend toward large winter populations of robins in recent years. Finally, it is apparent that the White-throated Sparrow has surpassed the Song Sparrow in numbers of wintering individuals visiting feeders in this area and is now firmly established as a regular winter visitant.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Volume 48, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Loon	December	11,22	1,1 Derby	Powers
	"	13	1 Niagara Falls	Barber, et. al. (BOS)
Horned Grebe	"	1	2 Derby	Powers
*Gannet	"	5	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Barber, et. al.
Great Blue Heron	"	3	1 Derby	Powers
	"	9,20	1,1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	20	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	26	1 Niagara Falls	Barbers
Canada Goose	"	4	130 Derby	Powers
	"	12	79 Wales	Rosches
	"	23	1000 Town of Somerset	Thills
	"	27,29	53,71 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
White-w. Scoter	"	8,15	5,5 Derby	Powers
Black Scoter	"	12	1 Derby	Powers
King Eider	"	13	1 N. Falls, Ont.	Barber, et. al. (BOS)
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	5	1 Town of Darien	Harper
	"	10,11,14,22	1,1,1,1 Depew	Barbers
	"	19,27	1,1 Wales	Rosche
	"	28,30	1,1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	29	1 Silver Bay, Ont.	Andrle, Thills
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	8	1 Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan
		(immature bird; killed striking school window)		
	"	16	1 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	29-30	1 Town of Darien (f)	Harper
Rough-legged Hawk	"	6	1 Town of Sheldon	Harper
	"	21	2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	29	1 Port Colborne, Ont.	Andrle, Thills
Turkey	"	2	2 East Aurora	Danner
Glaucous Gull	"	6,21	1,1 Derby	Powers
Iceland Gull (L.g. kumlieni)	"	6,13	1,1 Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle, et. al.
Little Gull	"	23	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	Thills
	"	25	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle, Foster
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	3	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Snowy Owl	"	30	1 Derby	Powers
Long-eared Owl	"	29	1 Silver Bay, Ont.	Andrle, Thills
	"	29	3 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle, Thills
Belted Kingfisher	"	22	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Common Flicker	"	15	1 Cheektowaga	Schwartz
Red-bell. Wdpkr.	"	2-31	1 Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	7,8,21-31	1,1,1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
Common Crow	"	21-31	100 Alfred	Brooks
		(at communal roost each evening)		
Tufted Titmouse	"	1	3 Derby	Powers
	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1-31	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
	"	23	2 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	Thills
Winter Wren	"	1	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Carolina Wren	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner

Volume 48, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Mockingbird	December	15	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	22,25	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
American Robin	"	1	3 Derby	Powers
Northern Shrike	"	5	1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	7	1 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	17	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	26-31	1 Spring Brook	Danner, et. al.
Eastern Meadowlark	"	29	3 Wales	Rosches
Red-w. Blackbird	"	6,12	1,1 Belmont	Burtons
Rusty Blackbird	"	6	1 Belmont	Burtons
Common Grackle	"	2	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	8	2 Derby	Powers
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	2,5	1,1 Depew	Barbers
	"	7,8-31	75,10-15 Cheektowaga	Schwartz
	"	8	15 Town of Holland (f)	Becker
	"	11	3 Belmont	Burtons
	"	12-20	2-15 Town of Darien (f)	Harper
	"	15,24	3,3 Kenmore (f)	Thill
Evening Grosbeak	"	1	2 Derby	Powers
	"	1-31	18 Town of Holland (f)	Becker
	"	1-31	1-45 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-31	8-41 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	9,24,30	30,60,125 Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	12-31	15-30 Town of Darien (f)	Harper
	"	26-31	35-50 Belmont	Burtons
House Finch	"	1-31	11-14 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	1-31	1-4 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-31	3 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	1-31	6-10 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-31	12-20 Cheektowaga	Schwartz
	"	4-31	20 Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	27	75 Scio	Pitzricks
Pine Grosbeak	"	31	1 Alfred	Brooks
Common Redpoll	"	2	22 Alfred	Brooks
	"	10,13	1,1 Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	12	2 Town of Darien	Harper
Pine Siskin	"	4	2 Wales (f)	Rosche
White-w. Crossbill	"	2-29	1-14 Alfred	Brooks
Field Sparrow	"	5	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1-7	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-31	28 Derby	Powers
	"	5	1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	7,14,29	1,1,1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	10,23	1,2 Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	23	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	Thills
	"	23	1 Town of Somerset	Thills
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Derby	Powers
	"	4,9,12,20,22	2,1,1,1,1 Belmont	Burtons

Snow Bunting	December	20	30 Orangeville	Rosches
	"	26	175 Warsaw	Pitzrick
	"	27	45 Wethersfield	Barbers
	"	29	3 Rock Point Prov.	Andrle, Thills
			Park	
	"	29	40 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle, Thills

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year	267
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue (+1 addendum) . . .	<u>1</u>
Total for year.	269

ADDENDA - 1980

Red Phalarope	September	<u>28,29,30</u>	1 Buffalo	Zebehazy
	October	<u>1,2</u>	Harbor	

ADDENDA - 1981

<u>Gannet</u>	December	6,13	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, et. al.
*Least Bittern	October	<u>30</u>	1 Lackawanna	Batcheller, et. al.
<u>Lawrence's Warbler</u>	June	19	1 Holland	Schaffner

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of the Fifty-third B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count

Compiled by Bill Bogacki

An excellent Christmas Count resulted from the hard work of 40 participants in the Buffalo Circle. Eighty-four species, plus one Mallard x Black Duck hybrid, represent the third highest total in the history of the Count, surpassed only in 1963 (86) and 1969 (90). The 134,600 individuals reported in the 16 territories is also the fourth highest number recorded, exceeded only in 1967 (140,532), 1978 (147,655), and 1979 (155,582).

With regard to the 1981 Count, the Horned Grebe was missing for the first time in ten years. The Barrow's Goldeneye was reported for the fifth time ever and the Whistling Swan was recorded for the sixth time ever. Four species representing all-time highs were recorded as follows: Mallard (2505), Wood Duck (6), Black Scoter (16), and Red-breasted Merganser (1534).

Other interesting facts and figures of the 53rd Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below.

Date: December 20, 1981

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was partly cloudy in the morning and overcast in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 7 degrees (F.) to an afternoon high of 25 degrees (F.), with winds from the west at 5-10 mph. The Niagara River was mostly free of ice, but many smaller bodies of water, especially ponds and inlets, were ice-covered. The snowcover ranged from zero to two inches with heavier collections in some places varying with topography and ground cover.

Coverage: Forty observers in 15 parties and one at feeders made observations from 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Party-hours were 127 (45 on foot and 82 by car), plus 2 hours at feeders and 2 hours owling. Party-miles were 759 (58 on foot and 701 by car).

Territories and Observers: (leaders underlined)

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andrie, Lois Abbott, Marcy Foster, David Mark. 44 species; 7989 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Richard Byron, James Gregory, Arthur Partridge, Bobby E. Tomasi. 27 species; 2476 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Arthur Schaffner. 20 species; 1204 individuals.
- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Frances Rew, Ralph Gardiner (feeder report), Pauline and Robert Schwartz. 34 species; 68,837 individuals.
- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Robert Sommerville. 31 species; 1525 individuals.
- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Main Street south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands, and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Walt and Harriette Klabunde. 31 species; 28,778 individuals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Road southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling, Wavel and Maxine Barber. 26 species; 1040 individuals.

Fifty-third B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Doug Happ, Joe Chosen, Andrew Tupolnycky. 35 species; 1296 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Drive east and south to area boundary, west to Niagara River. Marg Wright, Jack Wright, Barbara Lindeman. 29 species; 5199 individuals.
- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Road, north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. Ed Fessler. 39 species; 1754 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Lincoln Nutting, Bill Burch. 23 species; 617 individuals.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Road to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy, David Cooper. 42 species; 822 individuals.
- N. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert Brock, Marc Chelemer. 24 species; 452 individuals.
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road, and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Peggy Daniels, Julia Wells. 26 species; 348 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Road south to Spaulding Road from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Dick Christensen, Alice Ulrich. 28 species; 1392 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Road to the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Dick Christensen. 37 species; 10,877 individuals.

Species Recorded: With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found, in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories.

Common Loon	5	(A,K)
Horned Grebe	0	First time in 10 years. No record.
Double-crested Cormorant	2	(H,P) High; tied with 1948, 1962.
Great Blue Heron	1	(A)
Whistling Swan	2	(Q)
Canada Goose	352	(D,P,Q) High; previous high 450 in 1938.
Mallard	2505	Record; previous high 1338 in 1979.
Black Duck	191	
Gadwall	34	Lowest in 15 years.
Pintail	54	
Green-winged Teal	5	(A,F)

Fifty-third B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

American Widgeon	137	(A,F,K)
Wood Duck	<u>6</u>	(J) Record; previous high 3 in 1963.
Redhead	395	High; previous high 537 in 1980.
Canvasback	10,504	High; previous highs 12,151 in 1954 and 10,950 in 1955.
Greater Scaup	2708	
Lesser Scaup	11	(A)
Common Goldeneye	4024	
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	(A) Fifth time ever.
Bufflehead	672	
Oldsquaw	29	(A,D,E)
White-winged Scoter	4	(M)
Surf Scoter	2	(A)
Black Scoter	<u>16</u>	Record; previous high 14 in 1977.
Hooded Merganser	1	(H)
Common Merganser	1160	
Red-breasted Merganser	<u>1534</u>	Record; previous high 1070 in 1956.
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	(E,M)
Cooper's Hawk	1	(B)
Red-tailed Hawk	89	
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	(K)
Rough-legged Hawk	7	
Marsh Hawk	1	(M)
American Kestrel	31	
Ruffed Grouse	1	(E)
Ring-necked Pheasant	30	
Glaucous Gull	1	(A) Lowest in 20 years.
Great Black-backed Gull	83	
Herring Gull	5805	
Ring-billed Gull	1706	
Bonaparte's Gull	5682	
Rock Dove	937	
Mourning Dove	293	
Screech Owl	10	
Great Horned Owl	5	
Short-eared Owl	2	(P)
Owl, sp.	1	(B)
Belted Kingfisher	<u>8</u>	High; previous high 12 in 1979.
Common (Yel.-sh.) Flicker	12	
Hairy Woodpecker	8	
Downy Woodpecker	78	
Horned Lark	8	(C)
Blue Jay	127	Lowest in 14 years.
Common Crow	200	
Black-capped Chickadee	342	
White-breasted Nuthatch	28	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	(E,G)
Brown Creeper	14	
Mockingbird	2	(H,Q)
American Robin	21	

Fifty-third B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

Golden-crowned Kinglet	7	(A,E,Q)	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	(M) Seventh time ever.	
Cedar Waxwing	24	(K,M)	
N. Shrike	8		
Starling	91,433		
House Sparrow	2145		
E. Meadowlark	4	(E)	
Red-winged Blackbird	6	(C,H,J)	
Common Grackle	2	(O)	
Brown-headed Cowbird	18	(E,G,O)	
Cardinal	203		
Purple Finch	4	(J)	
House Finch	14	(F,J,M) High; previous high 22 in 1979.	
Pine Grosbeak	1	(M)	
Common Redpoll	83	(A,Q) Third highest since 1969 (580) (111 in 1965).	
Pine Siskin	4	(K,Q)	
American Goldfinch	206	High; previous high 209 in 1980.	
White-winged Crossbill	1	(D)	
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	(K)	
Dark-eyed (W.-w.) Junco	112		
Tree Sparrow	314		
White-crowned Sparrow	1	(Q)	
White-throated Sparrow	68		
Swamp Sparrow	4	(M,O)	
Song Sparrow	20		
Snow Bunting	20	(M)	
Totals:	134,600	individuals	(Fourth highest ever)
	84	species	(Third highest ever)

The compiler thanks all who contributed to the Count's fine success.

70 Louise Drive, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14227

B.O.S. FIELD TRIPS REVISITED

Niagara River Trip - Sunday, DECEMBER 11, 1981 -- Twenty-four B.O.S. members observed forty-three species of birds along the ice-free Niagara River on a changeable early winter's day with temperatures in the middle 20's to low 30's. Seven species of gulls as well as the Kumlien's race of the Iceland Gull were seen. A tour of the river from the sand dock in Queenston to under the bridge failed to produce a Black-headed Gull by the group although other individuals did see two on that day in that area.

The Barrow's Goldeneye, Surf, Black and White-winged Scoters, Golden-crowned Kinglet and the King Eider were seen. The Common Eider previously reported at Ft. Niagara was not found. The last observation had indicated the bird had an injured wing - maybe shot.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of meeting topics and speakers for September through December 1982:

- September 8th: Summer birding experiences of members. All are welcome to participate.
- September 22nd: 'Taxonomy'. Presented by Wavel Barber.
- October 13th: Report by Walt Klabunde on the most recent conference of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs.
- October 27th: Bob Andrie will report on the third year of progress with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- November 10th: Marie Wendling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.

For further information contact Mark Chelemer (885-0474).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the summer of 1982.

- July 18th: Trip to St. David's Cannery ponds led by Linc Nutting. Meet in the parking area on the American side of the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge at 8:30 a.m.
- August 29th: Tifft Farm Nature Preserve for warblers and other migrants. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Tifft parking lot.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips committee chairperson (537-2592; Holland, NY).

Volume 48, No. 1

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, New York 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy
1469 E. Quaker Road
Ochard Park, NY 14127
(716) 655-4777

519

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850
SEP 8 1982

VOLUME 48

FEBRUARY 1982

NUMBER 2

THE MONTH

Winter came with a vengeance in January. The new year began with a spell of mild weather and the high temperature of the month, 53° (F.), was recorded during the morning of January 4th before the barometer fell precipitously to a reading of 28.70 inches by late afternoon, ushering in a weather front accompanied by gale force winds with gusts clocked up to 71 m.p.h., rapidly falling temperatures and snow squalls. After a brief respite on the 6th, bitter cold weather gripped the Niagara Frontier and the temperature did not rise above freezing until January 23rd. In the meantime, lake effect snow squalls in the snow belt south of Buffalo developed into a severe blizzard on January 10th and 11th, moving across much of Western New York and the Niagara Peninsula and causing such disruption in travel and commerce that it was dubbed 'the Blizzard of '82' by the media pundits. The blizzard was followed by a severe cold spell with a record low temperature of -16° (F.) recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport on January 17th with a high reading for that day of only 2° (F.)! The 17th thus has the dubious distinction of being the overall coldest day ever recorded at Buffalo in this century. On January 23rd an ice storm further crippled the area and the final weekend of the month brought still another storm with 4 to 6 inches of snow followed by sleet and freezing rain. The average temperature for the month was 17.2° (F.), -6.5° below normal; precipitation measured 6.88 inches, 3.98 inches above average with total snow accumulation 53.2 inches for the month, the heaviest falls of 10.5 inches and 18.3 inches being recorded during the blizzard on January 10th and 11th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

With four successive weekends of foul weather keeping most field observers close to home, it was a pleasant surprise to receive so many records for January. Predictably, many more winter finches and other passerines sought succor at feeders and it became apparent that a major influx of Common Redpolls was occurring with one unverified report of a Hoary Redpoll in the Town of Tonawanda. Again, also predictably, increased reports of Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks haunting these feeders were received. Curiously, in spite of two ice storms in January, there were no reports of injured Red-necked Grebes being recovered after attempting to land on highways or fields during periods of freezing rain.

Many interesting records were received in January. An Eared Grebe in winter plumage was seen in the company of five Horned Grebes in Dunkirk Harbor by Art Schaffner on January 29th. On January 15th, Marie Wendling saw two brownish-gray geese standing on the ice at the edge of Ellicott Creek in Glen Park in the Village of Williamsville. One of these birds had orange-colored feet and a distinctive white patch on the face, darker markings on the side and on the belly; the second bird had a pinkish bill but was otherwise non-descript. She immediately identified these birds as a pair of White-fronted Geese, apparently of the nominate race, A. albifrons. Several records of flocks of wintering Canada Geese were received. John Morse, the biologist at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge reported six sightings of wintering flocks between January 1st and the 27th, including 400 birds flying over on the 26th. Vivian Pitzrick writes that she heard geese flying over her residence in Allegany County at dusk on January 9th, but she could not see the birds.

An unverified report of a wintering Common Snipe in the Town of Amherst was received in January. On January 20th, Robert Andrie and Richard Byron had excellent looks at an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull standing on the ice bordering the Niagara River at Fort Erie. The bird was in the company of Herring, Ring-billed and Greater Black-backed Gulls; its pale gray mantle contrasted noticeably with the darker slate color of the Greater Black-backed Gulls. On January 1st, Karen and Helen Renning observed two Boreal Chickadees in an ornamental Blue Spruce tree in front of their residence on Woodridge Avenue in the Town of Cheektowaga. The birds were seen briefly in the afternoon and then left and did not return. A Yellow-rumped Warbler was a regular visitor at the feeder of Ann Johnson in Orchard Park, where apparently it was thriving on a diet of suet and mixed fruits. On January 31st, Harold Axtell counted 81 Cardinals, all visible at one time, at the feeder complex that he maintains at his home on Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie. Dr. Axtell believes that it is the largest single concentration of Cardinals ever recorded in our study area and subsequent numbers may be even higher! Finally, Elizabeth Brooks reported banding a total of 292 Evening Grosbeaks in the Town of Alfred during January.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Volume 48, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Loon	January	10,11	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	"	29	5 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	30	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
<u>Eared Grebe</u>	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
Pied-billed Grebe	"	10	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	29	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Great Blue Heron	"	13	7 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	27	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	3	2 N. Falls, Ont.	Axtell, et. al.
Canada Goose	"	1-27	50-400 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
	"	1-31	23-82 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	28	28 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	"	29	40 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
<u>White-fr. Goose</u>	"	15	2 Williamsville	Wendling
<u>Gadwall</u>	"	28	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	"	28	6 Dufferin Is., Ont.	Schaffner
	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Pintail	"	28	18 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
White-w. Scoter	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	29	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Common Merganser	"	28	5000 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
	"	31	1500 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Hooded Merganser	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	29	1 N. Falls, Ont.	Rew
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1-8	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	27	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	29	1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	30	1 Brocton	Rew
Cooper's Hawk	"	2-25	1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	5,7	1,1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	7-10	1 Darien Corners	Harper
	"	12,26	1,1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	12-31	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
	"	12	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	15	1 Dunkirk	McKales
	"	18	1 Darien Center	Harper
	"	21-24	1 Darien Center	Harper
	"	26	1 Alfred	Brooks
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1 Town of Java	Becker
	"	2,28	2,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	3,9	1,1 Town of Sheldon	Harper
	"	19	1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	20	1 Friendship	Pitzrick
Bald Eagle	"	29	1 Town of Amity	Burton, Jordan
Marsh Hawk	"	7,12	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
Ruffed Grouse	"	2	2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
American Coot	"	5	10 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	29	7 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Glaucous Gull	"	29	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Rew, Horbett

Volume 48, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Iceland Gull	January	9	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Barbers
	"	29	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Rew, Horbett
Lesser Black-b. Gull	"	20	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Bonaparte's Gull	"	29	10 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner, Mosher
	"	31	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Snowy Owl	"	7-9	1 Cheektowaga	Christensen
	"	18	1 West Seneca	Danner
Belted Kingfisher	"	3,15	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell, et al.
	"	13,16,28	1,1,1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	28	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	29	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Schaffner
Common Flicker	"	6	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	15	1 Kenmore	Thills
	"	17	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	28	1 Dufferin Is., Ont.	Schaffner
Red-bell. Wdpkr.	"	1-10,16	1,1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	1-23	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	6,9,16	2,1,1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	10	1 Tonawanda Indian R.	Barbers
	"	15	1 Amity L	Pitzrick
Horned Lark (<u>E.a. alpestris</u>)	"	25	12 Wende	Barbers
Boreal Chickadee	"	1	2 Cheektowaga	Rennings
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	10 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	2-30	1 Elma	Danner
	"	14	4 South Wales	Saville
Carolina Wren	"	1-22	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Mockingbird	"	27	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
American Robin	"	3	6 N. Falls, Ont.	Barbers
	"	15	3 Grand Island	Thill, Reckhow
	"	20	3 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Northern Shrike	"	6	1 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	11	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	13	1 Amity L	Pitzrick
	"	14	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	25,29	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	19	1 Orchard Park (f)	Saville
Red-w. Blackbird	"	4	1 Town of Amherst	Schaffner
	"	4	20 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	16	8 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	30,31	2,1 Belmont	Burtens
Rusty Blackbird	"	3-17	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	30	1 Iroquois NWR (f)	Olsen
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-18	1-6 Depew	Barbers
	"	1-31	1-12 Kenmore (f)	Thill
	"	5-24	14 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	18-19	2 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	31	2 Eggertsville	Hulls

Volume 48, No. 2 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Cardinal	January	31	<u>81</u> Rose Hill Rd., Ont. (f)	Axtell
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-31	4-100 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	10-37 Amity L	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	35 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	292 Alfred	Brooks
			(all birds banded & released)	
"	"	1-31	25 Town of Holland	Becker
"	"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	3,17,27	3-10 Alden (f)	Wolfling
"	"	10	60 Town of Pomfret (f)	Rew, Buck
"	"	10,16,28	3-4 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	13	45 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	26,31	60,125 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
House Finch	"	1-31	6-35 Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	1-31	1-6 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	1-31	2-8 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	15-20 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	6-28	26-74 Scio	Pitzrick
Pine Grosbeak	"	9	3 Franklinville	Becker
Common Redpoll	"	1-31	1 Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	1,8	2,2 Amity L	Pitzrick
"	"	13	4 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
"	"	15-31	1-50 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	25-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	26-31	2-10 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	26,31	3,1 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	28	6 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	28-30	1 Alden (f)	Wolfling
"	"	30,31	5,3 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	31	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	31	6 Alden (f)	Wolfling
Pine Siskin	"	1-31	2 Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	10	1 Town of Portland(f)	Rew, Buck
"	"	27-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
Red Crossbill	"	1	5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	25,29	3,1 Alfred	Brooks
White-w. Crossbill	"	12,29	3,8 Alfred	Brooks
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	2 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	2 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	40 Rose Hill Rd., Ont. (f)	Axtell
"	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	5,31	1,1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
"	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR (f)	Morse
Swamp Sparrow	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	2 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	8-31	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	10	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Rew, Buck
"	"	29	2 Town of Sheldon (f)	Rosches

Snow Bunting	January	2,26	200,100	Town of Sheldon	Rosches
	"	2	80	Alfred	Brooks
	"	9	150	Darien Center	Harper
	"	17	125	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
(maximum counts for the month)					

Other species reported in January: Mallard; Black Duck; Redhead; Canvasback; Greater Scaup; Common Goldeneye; Bufflehead; Oldsquaw; Red-br. Merganser; Red-tailed Hawk; American Kestrel; Ring-necked Pheasant; Turkey; Great Black-backed Gull; Herring Gull; Ring-billed Gull; Rock Dove; Mourning Dove; Screech Owl; Great Horned Owl; Pileated Woodpecker; Hairy Woodpecker; Downy Woodpecker; Blue Jay; Common Crow; Black-c. Chickadee; White-br. Nuthatch; Red-br. Nuthatch; Brown Creeper; Cedar Waxwing; Starling; House Sparrow; Purple Finch; American Goldfinch; Dark-eyed Junco; Tree Sparrow.

Species, sub-species and hybrids recorded this month. 88

- - - - -

The following correspondence has been sent for the Society:

January 27, 1982

Mr. D. Bednarski
Beaver Island State Park Administration
2136 West Oakfield
Grand Island, N.Y. 14072

Dear Sir,

The Society appreciates your frankness concerning the lack of protection against vandalism in Buckhorn Island State Park, due to lack of funds.

Ornithologists have great interest in the Park because of its unique habitats and the consequent bird life.

My wife and I have been the principal researchers in the Park for the past three years and will continue for several more years. We have witnessed illegal hunting and much vandalism by four-wheel drive vehicles and recreational-type vehicles with a loss of breeding opportunities for birds. This is particularly true in the area bordering the West River, beginning at the Niagara County Pumping Station and going north, along the construction road to the power towers.

Barricades have been erected at the entrance to other trails to keep wheeled vehicles out with some success. It is recommended by the Society that this road be barricaded also.

The Society also recommends that the easement, given to the Town of Grand Island allowing their use and maintenance of a portion of this area fronting on the West River and running inland triangularly, revert back to Park jurisdiction so that when funds become available this will be Park maintained also. The Town has not maintained it.

The members of the Society have volunteered their services to clean up the trash in this area after the barricade has been erected.

If there is anything further the Society can do to assist, please write to the above address, or phone me at my office at 891-3110.

Respectfully, for the
Society,

John R. Wright

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, New York 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

EDITOR: Michael A. Zebehazy
1469 E. Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127
(716) 655-4777

OCT 06 1982

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 48

MARCH 1982

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

The weather in February was considerably milder than the preceding month with comparatively light snowfall and the temperature remaining above 0° (F) all month. It was a gloomy month, however, with only 33% of possible sunshine recorded. There were mild thaws at the beginning and middle of the period with the high temperature for the month, 45° (F) being recorded on February 15th. Conditions were more wintry for the final week and John Morse reported that no migrant Canada Geese were seen at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by month's end. Average temperature for the month was 23.2° (F), a departure of -1.2° from the norm while precipitation measured 1.28 inches, 1.27 inches below normal. Snowfall at Buffalo measured 12.7 inches. The only major weather disturbance occurred on February 1st when gale force winds clocked at up to 61 m.p.h. buffeted the area. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Although no migrating Geese or Swans made an appearance in the wetlands east of Buffalo during February, Harold Axtell counted 650 Canada Geese in several flocks on the upper Niagara River on February 10th. Dr. Axtell is of the opinion that these birds were migrants only recently arrived on the river. He saw one flock arriving as he watched and a few hours earlier, when he traveled over the same route, only 175 Geese were present on the river. Dr. Axtell also commented on the large number of Red-tailed Hawks which appeared in the Niagara Peninsula on the weekend of February 12th-14th. The writer was in the company of Axtell and Robert Andrie driving between St. Catharines and Fort Erie, Ontario on the afternoon of February 12th and counting no fewer than fifteen of these birds in the ten mile trip. On the 14th, Axtell counted 18 Red-tails in the small area at the intersection of the Queen Elizabeth Way and Sodom Road in the Town of Fort Erie where six days before there had been none. These birds were undoubtedly part of a general influx of Red-tailed Hawks into southern Ontario in February.

There were many bird records of unusual interest in February. Dr. David Cooper of Lewiston reported two pairs of Short-eared Owls hunting by daylight on the Ransomville Road in the Town of Porter in Niagara County. An immature Black-legged Kittiwake was seen in Dunkirk Harbor by Fran Rew and several other observers on February 13th and 14th while, on a negative note, the number of White-winged Gulls on the Niagara River between Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake apparently is the lowest in the past decade. The ornithological find of the month was a male Varied Thrush observed by Ward Klepfer at the feeder of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Butch at 45 Briarhill Road in Williamsville on February 27th and apparently the bird had been a regular visitor to the residence for three weeks prior to that time.

It became apparent that a major irruption of Redpolls was occurring in our study area this winter. Tom Harper writes that the number of Common Redpolls visiting his feeder at Darien Center in Genesee County increased daily in February. There appears to be competition between this species and the American Goldfinch for 'niger seeds', an imported weed seed that is considered most delectable by Goldfinches. Maxine Barber reported a Hoary Redpoll among the Common Redpolls at her thistle feeder at her residence in Depew on February 5th and 6th. The bird was noticeably larger than the Common Redpolls with which it associated with lighter plumage and a white patch on its back. Elizabeth Brooks reports that among 136 Common Redpolls she banded during February, there was one individual she retrieved from her mist net on the 18th which was noticeably larger than the others with a slightly bigger beak and longer wing measurements. Upon weighing, it averaged 2.8 grams heavier than the other Redpolls banded during the same period. Although the bird did not have the significantly wider dusky side and flank streaks of the subspecies Acanthis flammea rostrata, Mrs. Brooks is of the opinion that this indeed was what she had netted.

Finally, Bob Klips reported an immature Double-crested Cormorant flying down the Niagara River near Austin Street in Buffalo on February 8th.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Volume 48, No. 3 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Red-necked Grebe	February	13	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	"	14	5 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
Pied-b. Grebe	"	14	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle et al
*D-crest. Cormorant	"	8	1 Buffalo	Klips
	"	28	1 Grand Island	Barber, Rosche
Great Blue Heron	"	15,19	1,1 Belmont	Burtons
Canada Goose	"	1-28	30-104 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	10	650 Upper Niagara River	Axtell
	"	20	45 Dunkirk Harbor	Barbers
Gadwall	"	7	6 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*Northern Shoveler	"	13	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*Barrow's Goldeneye	"	12	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
*King Eider	"	12	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1-26	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	15	1 Dunkirk	Rew
	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-28	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	6	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	8-11	1 Depew	Barber
	"	9,13,23	1,1,1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	10-12,23	1,1 Town of Darien	Harper
Red-tailed Hawk	"	14	18 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	6	2 Batavia	Barbers
	"	6	2 Town of Sheldon	Becker
	"	7	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Harper
	"	14	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	"	17	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosches
	"	20	2 Town of Niagara	Klabundes
	"	22	2 Cuba	Pitzrick
Claucous Gull	"	8	3 Buffalo	Klips
	"	13,14	1,2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	13,14	1,1 Niagara River	Axtell
Iceland Gull	"	13	3 Niagara River	Axtell
Bonaparte's Gull	"	7	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	13,14	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	14	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Andrle
Snowy Owl	"	3	2 Town of Sheldon	Harper et al
	"	9,17	1,1 Town of Sheldon	Rosches
	"	27	1 Buffalo Harbor	Andrle, Foster
	"	28	1 Town of Sheldon	Bogacki
*Long-eared Owl	"	28	1 Silver Bay, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	28	1 Port Colborne, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	28	14 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
*Short-eared Owl	"	13	2 Town of Porter	Klabundes
	"	14	4 Town of Porter	Cooper
Belted Kingfisher	"	13	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Axtell
	"	14	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	15	1 Belmont	Burtons
Common Flicker	"	7	1 Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	"	17	1 Ft. Niagara St. Pk.	Klabundes

Volume 48, No. 3 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Red-bellied Wdpkr.	February	5,10,14	1,1,1	Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	5-19	1	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
*Horned Lark	"	12	29	Arcade	Barbers
(<u>E.a. praticola</u>)	"	13	20	Town of Porter	Klabundes
"	"	15	18	Town of Angelica	Burtens
Common Crow	"	12	163	Oramel	Barbers
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-28	1	Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	2-24	1	Elma	Forsberg
"	"	22,23	1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Mockingbird	"	3,5	1,1	Lewiston	Klabundes
"	"	14	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	16	1	Oak Orchard GMA	Morse
American Robin	"	10	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	"	12	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	14	1	Town of Tonawanda	Thill
"	"	20	1	Sturgeon Point	Barbers
*Varied Thrush	"	27	1	Williamsville (f)	Klepfer, Busch
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	4,5,10,27	3,1,1,1	Alfred	Brooks
Northern Shrike	"	7	1	Beaver Meadow EEC	Harper
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	23	1	Orchard Park	Saville
Red-w. Blackbird	"	1,3,4,15	3,1,1,1	Belmont	Burtens
"	"	11,14	2,1	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
"	"	20	2	Town of Darien	Harper
"	"	20	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	24	1	Depew (f)	Barbers
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1	1	Depew (f)	Barbers
"	"	2-28	2-10	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
"	"	6,7	1,1	Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	9-28	1-3	Town of Darien	Harper
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-28	25-35	Town of Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	1-28	2-34	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	1-28	60-100	Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
"	"	1-28	128	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1-28	20-50	Belmont	Burtens
"	"	1-28	25	Holland	Becker
"	"	2	2	Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	7,9	3,3	Orchard Park	Saville
House Finch	"	1-28	2-10	Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
"	"	1-28	5-30	Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	1-28	20	Cheektowaga	Bogacki
"	"	1-28	20	Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
"	"	1-28	6-10	Belmont	Burtens
"	"	1-20	2-5	Lewiston (f)	Kalbundes
"	"	5,16	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	15	2	South Dayton	Rew
*Hoary Redpoll	"	5,6	1	Depew (f)	Barbers
Common Redpoll	"	1-28	10-75	Town of Darien (f)	Harper
"	"	1-28	1-25	Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	"	1-28	1-20	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	"	1-28	15	Cheektowaga	Bogacki
"	"	1-28	1-72	Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-16,28	1-50,6	Belmont	Burtens

Common Redpoll (cont.)	February	1,21	1,6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	1-25	3-75 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	2-28	12 Holland	Becker
	"	6	180 Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
	"	7-24	1-30 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	7-28	136 Alfred	Brooks
		(total netted & banded)		
	"	8	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	9-17	6-24 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	12	20 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	12-26	2-6 Cheektowaga (f)	Schwartz
	"	19	30 Buffalo	Rew
Pine Siskin	"	4-28	1-8 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	13,19	4,1 Alfred	Brooks
White-w. Crossbill	"	10-27	1-12 Alfred	Brooks
	"	16	12 Belmont	Burtons
	"	20,21	6,3 Cheektowaga	Schwartz et al
	"	24	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1-28	2 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-28	2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	1-28	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
Song Sparrow	"	1-28	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	3-21	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	6,8	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	22	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
*Lapland Longspur	"	13	20 Town of Porter	Klabundes
Snow Bunting	"	5	50 Town of Darien	Harper
	"	10	35 Alfred	Brooks
	"	13	750-800 Town of Porter	Klabundes
	"	20	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	20,27	50,60 Buffalo	Andrle, Foster
	"	12	600 Arcade	Barbers

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 88

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. 12

Total for year 100

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

New York State Federation of Bird Clubs Waterfowl Count

Compiled by Alan H. Reckhow

Following is the result of the January 1982 Waterfowl Count for Region #1 of the Federation of New York Bird Clubs. The Kingbird will publish the state-wide count at a later date.

Dates included January 9 - January 17, with January 10 the target date.

New York State Federation of Bird Clubs Waterfowl Count cont.

Common Loon	1	(I)	average
Pied-billed Grebe	3	(I)	average
Canada Goose	45		average
Mallard	3,044		high
Black Duck	299		very low
Gadwall	21	(F)	average
Pintail	1	(F)	lowest ever
American Wigeon	47		very low
Wood Duck	1	(Q)	average
Redhead	103		average
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	(F)	average
Common Goldeneye	3,154		very low
Ring-necked Duck	1	(E)	average
Canvasback	2,703		average
Greater Scaup	2,127		high
Lesser Scaup	7	(F)	low average
Bufflehead	100		low
Oldsquaw	32		very low
White-w. Scoter	3	(D & I)	very low
Black Scoter	2	(B & E)	average
Hooded Merganser	3	(F & I)	low
Red-br. Merganser	11		lowest ever
Common Merganser	1,370		very low
American Coot	5	(I)	average
Total	13,216		lowest ever
Total species	25		average
Maximum Total	46,200		seen in 1960
Maximum Species	39		seen in 1960

Most of the inland lakes, ponds, swamps and streams were frozen over as well as all of Lakes Chautauqua and Erie. Dunkirk Harbor, of course, was open.

The following people took part in the count:

- A - Lake Ontario (Olcott to Pt. Breeze) - Wagner
- B - Lake Ontario (Ft. Niagara to Olcott) - Klabundes
- C - Ft. Niagara to Gorge at the Falls - Nutting
- D - Niagara-on-the-Lake to Gorge at Falls - Zebehazy
- E - Buffalo Harbor to Goat Island - Frank
- F - Ft. Erie to Canadian Falls - Axtell
- G - Grand Island - Reckhow and Thill
- H - Buffalo Harbor to Silver Creek - Andrle
- I - Silver Creek to Penn. Line - Rew
- P - Williamsville Area - Marie Wendling
- Q - Delaware Park, Forest Lawn, Zoo - Millard

Thanks very much to all those who took part in the count.

1570 Colvin Avenue, Tonawanda, New York 14223

Volume 48, No. 3 "Organization Activities" cont.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of February 10, 1982

President Mike Zebehazy opened the meeting.

The Secretary's minutes of January 13th and 27th were approved as read.

Mike read a "thank-you" letter from Gordon Meade acknowledging the Society's recent commitment of funds (\$300 per year, for the 3rd through 5th years) to the local Breeding Bird Atlas Project Regional Coordinator, to be used to help subsidize individuals and teams of atlasers "block-busting" and working remote areas.

Mark Chelemer made a motion to put \$3,500 of the Society's funds into the Rowe Prime Reserve Fund. After discussion, it was decided to postpone the decision until more information can be gathered regarding other investment options.

Walter Klabunde requested weekday assistance monitoring the hawk migration at Grimsby, Ontario.

Program: Mark Chelemer spoke on the Gannet's fish-finding ability, and Cowbird social behavior. A lively discussion followed which highlighted members' ideas and questions about animal communication.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

From Meeting Minutes submitted by

Karen E. Renning

FIELD TRIP - ONTARIO PLAINS - February 21, 1982

Twenty-five (25) hardy bird watchers braved gray skies and wet snow on February 21 to look for birds on the Ontario Plains. Twenty-six (26) species of birds were observed including only one hawk, a Red-tail. The high spots were the King Eider seen off Niagara-on-the-Lake from the Coast Guard Station at Fort Niagara and a pair of White-winged Crossbills at the Oakland Rural Cemetery. The two Robins seen near Joseph Davis State Park were the first of the season for many of us. Three (3) Mockingbirds were seen. Everyone enjoyed watching a flock of Redpolls around feeders in Youngstown.

Harriette and Walter Klabunde

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of February 24, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Treasurer Peggy Daniels presented a comparison of the features of several different Money Market funds. After a discussion of their relative merits and their overall similarity to one another, Fran Rew made a motion directing Peggy to pick the one which would be most convenient for her to administer. Esther Becker seconded the motion, which was passed.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of February 24, 1982 cont.

Bob Andrie emphasized the need for "block-busting" in order to accomplish adequate coverage of the many uncensused and partially censused Breeding Bird Atlas Project blocks.

Program: Mike Zebehazy and Brad Lown gave a talk on Female Duck Identification, illuminated by study skins, slides, and many helpful hints from several of the members in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

From Meeting Minutes submitted by

Karen E. Renning

IT'S BLUEBIRD TIME AGAIN!

Eagerly awaiting the arrival of our first Eastern Bluebird (Sialia sialis) for the 1982 season, here in late February we have big plans for improving my Bluebird Trail at Amity Lake, near Belmont, N.Y., started in 1971. Sharing old and a few new ideas may be helpful.

Last year a box thought to have been stolen was later discovered in a thick dogwood clump at some distance from the original site. Now there are posts to replace and boxes to be repaired and several relocated in possibly better areas.

When you have excitedly told someone about seeing a Bluebird, he may have said, "Oh, we have lots of those. We've had seven or eight around all winter, driving smaller birds away from our feeders." These larger-than-Robin sized birds, of course, are Blue Jays, not Eastern Bluebirds. However, with more people becoming interested, there are few in our area who fail to recognize our Eastern Bluebird which is slightly smaller than a Robin, has a sky-blue back, head, tail and wings and a reddish-brown breast, with the male more brightly colored than the female. When the new commemorative U.S. postage stamps come out in April, depicting the 50 State birds and flowers, our Eastern Bluebird will appear on that for Missouri as well as for our own State, while the Mountain Bluebird is to be on the Nevada and Idaho stamps. The Western Bluebird is, unfortunately, omitted.

Good Bluebird habitat is rapidly disappearing as fields grow up to brush, old orchards disappear, metal fence posts replace wooden ones and more and more dead snags are cut for firewood. When erecting nest boxes, it goes without saying that permission should be obtained from land owners, most of whom are very cooperative, and we should consistently respect their property.

Weeds and brush should be kept short around box sites all season. The entrance hole in the Bluebird box should be 6 to 10 inches above the floor and exactly 1-1/2 inches in diameter -- no larger, to keep out Starlings. To discourage predators, as cats and raccoons, boxes should be on metal or sheathed poles at least four feet up. They should open easily and be not more than 5-1/2 feet up to facilitate regular monitoring. A 1-1/2 inch block, with 1-1/2 inch

hole, nailed over the opening will prevent raccoons from robbing the nest. Others have notes that boxes on utility poles are not bothered by predators, even without sheathing, possibly because of the vibration. (So far I have not used utility poles.)

Splendid sites for nest boxes are golf courses, parks, cemeteries and lawns where there are large open areas and low perches from which the birds can drop onto short grass to capture insects. Boxes in pastures should be on the outside of fence posts as cattle enjoy using them for rubbing, and it has been shown that even after Bluebirds have taken up residence, as in a box on an unsheathed post, the box may be moved a few feet to a metal post without disrupting the birds. (Seriously, I'd hate to try it!) On golf courses or in parks and even here, where I face boxes away from trails and roads to avoid their use for target practice, vandalism may be a problem. Near buildings the House Sparrow, introduced into the United States from England in the 1850's, may usurp every site, throw out Bluebird eggs, kill the young and even kill adult Bluebirds on the nest. A trap to be put into a top-opening box may be ordered at \$5.00 each from Joe Huber, 1720 Evergreen Court, Heath, Ohio 43055. However, a more effective trapping method might be one such as used by bird banders, Elizabeth Brooks, 1435 Water Wells Rd., Alfred Station, N.Y. 14803 or Donald Clark, Hicks Road, Franklinville, N.Y. 14737. My method of combating House Sparrows has been to quit feeding on the ground in late April and to put an unset mouse trap into the boxes wherever these weaver birds start to nest. They seem to distrust the trap while other birds will even build over it. Sites should be at some distance from woods and brushy areas as House Wrens may take over, puncturing or throwing out Bluebird eggs. I am still studying on better ways to avoid trouble from these little fellows -- so cute but lethal on a Bluebird trail.

Last year I experimented a little to try to lessen the Tree Swallow - Bluebird competition for nesting sites. Although here at Amity Lake Tree Swallows have nested as close as eight feet apart, they seem to prefer a distance of 30 or more feet. As I did last year, I plan to set more boxes out in **pairs**, two to ten feet apart, hoping Bluebirds will use one and Tree Swallows the other. I also plan to move some boxes from what may have caused too high a Tree Swallow concentration, as several pairs of these birds in a small area may gang up on the Bluebirds. However, we do enjoy the Tree Swallows as they, along with Barn Swallows and bats, effectively keep down the mosquito population.

A serious and messy problem I have is the Blow Fly (genus Protocalliphora). In March boxes should be cleaned and dusted with 1% Rotenone dust, as used in gardening. This kills any mites. After the Bluebirds have finished building, when the clutch of usually four to six eggs is complete, the eggs may be dusted with the Rotenone. (Dr. Stephen Eaton of St. Bonaventure University advises against the use of Rotenone on the eggs, as natural enemies of the Blow Fly may also be killed. In my area the larvae are so plentiful, I feel dusting is necessary.) When the young Bluebirds are five to six days of age, the nest is inspected for larvae under it, next to the floor. These may be from pin-head size to an inch long. If larvae are present, any clinging to the nestlings may be removed VERY CAREFULLY and the nesting material replaced with clean dry grass. Old nest material and larvae should be burned. The nest should NOT be redusted lest the tender young be harmed. In five to seven days the nest should be reinspected and treated in the same way. However, the box should not be opened after the nestlings are 12 days old or they may fledge prematurely. When the young have fledged, the box should be cleaned, redusted and carefully monitored as before.

Sometimes the Black-capped Chickadee uses the boxes -- a welcome tenant. I have no solution to the problem of snakes and squirrels, except to move the boxes out of these predator-prone areas. A general help in lessening predator damage is the consistent use of the "T" approach during monitoring.

The following is a brief summary of my Amity Lake Bluebird Trail which includes 53 of my boxes plus 32 belonging to friends and neighbors who allow me to monitor theirs. Not all are suitable for Bluebirds, of course.

1970	None					
1971	1 pair	E. Bluebirds	2 nestings	None successful		
1972	4 pair	"	5 "	4 successful	9 fledged	
1973	4 pair ¹	"	6 "	1 "	2 "	
		¹ One pair in dead tree cavity				
1974	4 pair	E. Bluebirds	5 nestings	2 successful	7 "	
1975	5 pair	"	9 "	4 "	9 "	
1976	2 pair	"	2 "	2 "	9 "	
1977	4 pair	"	6 "	5 "	19 "	
1978	3 pair	"	4 "	3 "	12 "	
1979	8 pair	"	14 "	12 "	45 "	
1980	13 pair	"	22 "	17 "	69 "	
1981	11 pair	"	21 "	13 "	54 "	

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake
Belmont, N.Y. 14813

NOTES

The following correspondence was received by the B.O.S. President (see Minutes and Notes from the February 10th B.O.S. meeting).

27 Mill Valley Road
Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

February 6, 1982

Dear Michael Zebehazy,

I want to express to the Buffalo Ornithological Society the appreciation of the Federation and the Atlas Project Steering Committee for the generous contribution you are making to the expenses of the project in Region 1. Bob Andrie has told me of your action. And please extend to the Society my personal pleasure and gratitude.

Your action is an expression of appreciation of the importance of the project, of the pleasure your members find in participation, and of your satisfaction with the good work Bob is doing as Regional Coordinator.

As we move into the third year, it's going to be up to all of us to be as diligent as possible in upgrading previous observations, and in getting out to survey those blocks and squares which have not yet been done, especially in the northernmost portion of the Region just south of Lake Ontario and the southwesternmost areas.

Again, my thanks and appreciation along with best personal regards and best wishes for good birding.

Gordon M. Meade
Atlas Project Chairman

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of meeting topics and speakers through December 1982:

- September 22nd: 'Taxonomy'. Presented by Wavel Barber.
- October 13th: Report by Walt Klabunde on the most recent conference of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs.
- October 27th: Bob Andrie will report on the third year of progress with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- November 10th: Marie Wendling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.

For further information contact Mark Chelemer, Programs Committee Chairperson (855-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for late summer and autumn of 1982.

- August 29th: Tifft Farm Nature Preserve for warblers and other migrants. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Tifft parking lot.
- September 12th: Rock Point Provincial Park for shorebirds. Meet at 7:00 a.m. alongside the Peace Bridge at the corner of Vermont St. and Busti St. Leader: Dick Byron (892-9496, days).
- October 24th: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza in front of Citibank, or at 10:15 a.m. at the Cayuga Pool. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

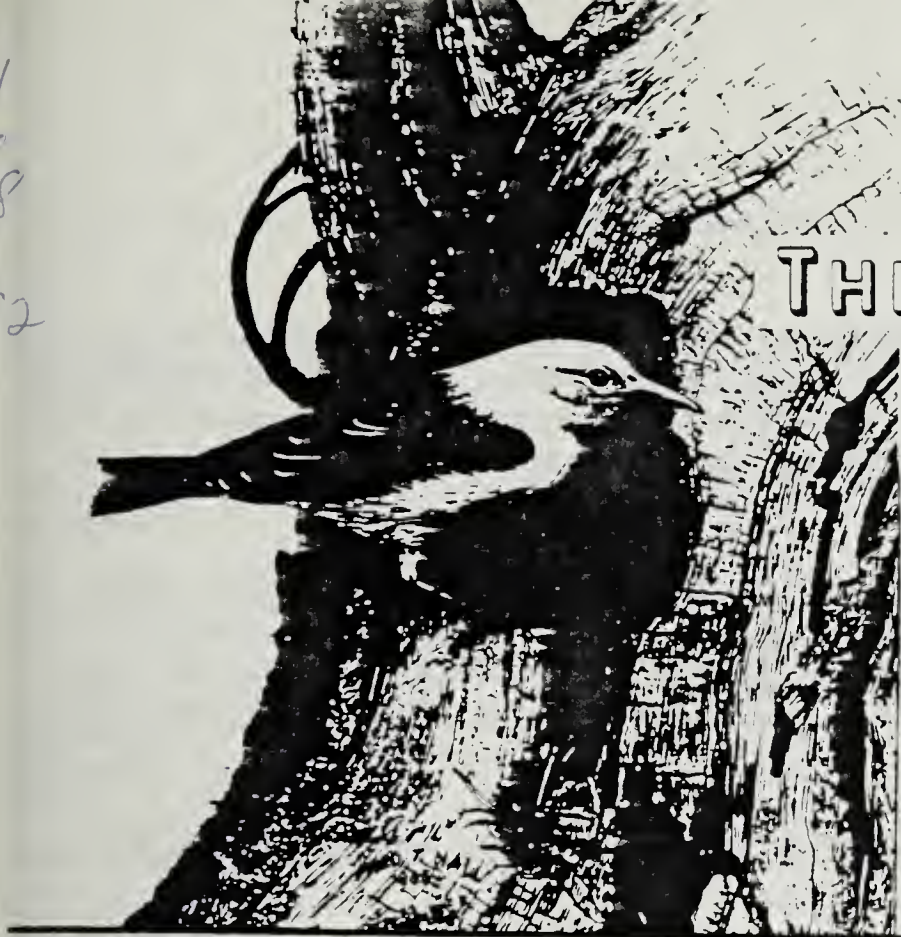
Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, New York 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222
(716) 882-7956



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 48

APRIL 1982

ALBERT R. MANN

NUMBER 4

LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850

THE MONTH

OCT 15 1982

The weather in March was cloudy and mild with no major weather disturbances. High temperatures for the month of 42° (F) on the 4th and 69° (F) on the 31st preceded cold fronts which precipitated thunderstorms on those dates. Snowfall for the period in the Buffalo area was light with a significant accumulation occurring only during a weather disturbance on March 9th, when 2.2 inches were recorded. Average temperature for the month was 32.5° (F), 0.4° above the norm. Precipitation measured 2.84 inches, a departure of -0.21 inches from the norm. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The month began with the arrival of the first migrant Canada Geese at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on March 1st. Although no Whistling Swans were reported in our study area until 11 days later, Red-winged Blackbirds, Grackles and other Icterids were also reported in migrating flocks during the first week of the month. Because of lack of open water in the sinks and wetlands north of Buffalo, there was no appreciable movement of Ducks and other waterfowl into the area until the last ten days of March.

A rare visitor to the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area is the Barnacle Goose. Whenever one makes its appearance among the thousands of Canada Geese in their Spring passage in the State Wildlife Management Area or Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, debate is resumed as to whether we are looking at an accidental wanderer from the feral palearctic fauna or an escapee from an aviary. In his Birds of New York State (1974) John Bull expressed his belief that all 'inland' records from the Oak Orchard region of Western New York between 1953 and 1968 may well represent escaped birds - some Barnacle Geese seen in the vicinity of Long Island on the Atlantic Coast were verifiably escapees. In any case, on March 28th an adult Barnacle Goose was seen by several observers on a dike and on the ice on the edge of a pond on the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area off of Route #77 in Genesee County. The bird was noticeably smaller than the Canada Geese with which it associated and the black head, neck and breast and the large white facial area were clearly seen. Robert Andrie, one of several observers who saw the bird, remarked that it appeared to be in excellent plumage with no obvious signs of

recent captivity. Later on this date, a Barnacle Goose, probably the same individual, was reported at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. John Morse writes that this bird was first seen by Edith Culp and Gertrude Monroe of St. Catherine's, Ontario at Cayuga Pool on March 23rd and again on the 25th by Dave Keller of Batavia.

Other interesting records received during March include a Glaucous Gull seen at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on March 28th during a BOS field trip. It is only the second record of this species for the refuge. On March 14th, Art and Olga Rosche counted an estimated 1,000 Snow Buntings in several flocks in the Town of Sheldon in Wyoming County.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate than an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Data Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Horned Grebe	March	31 F	21 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Pied-b. Grebe	"	15 F	1 Tonawanda WMA	Olsen
	"	29	1 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	1-5	1 Buffalo	Klips
Great Blue Heron	"	10	1 Tonawanda WMA	Morse
	"	21	1 Tonawanda WMA	McKales
	"	27	1 Jamestown	Elderkin
	"	28	1 Scio	Pitzrick
*Whistling Swan	"	12 F	6 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	14	5 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	14	7 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
	"	24	125 Beaver Meadow EEC	Rosche
	"	24	100 over Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	29	184 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
	(first and maximum counts for month)			
Canada Goose	"	1 F	6 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	13	110 Alfred	Brooks
	"	13,15	87,115 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	15	50 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	15	100 over Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	23	43,690 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
	"	29	45,400 Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
	(first and maximum counts for month)			

Volume 48, No. 4 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Barnacle Goose	March	28	1	Tonawands GMA	Andrle, Cooper et al
*Snow Goose	"	20 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	29	5	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
		(all blue morph birds)			
Gadwall	"	14 F	25	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	15	4	Celoron	Elderkin
Pintail	"	11 F	10	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	14	325	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	16	8	Jamestown	Elderkin
*Green-w. Teal	"	18 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Blue-w. Teal	"	21 F	1	Clarence	McKales
	"	22	2	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*American Wigeon	"	13 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	14	2	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Northern Shoveler	"	22 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Wood Duck	"	16 F	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	21	4	Clarence	McKales
Redhead	"	18 F	2	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Ring-necked Duck	"	13 F	8	Tonawanda WMA	Morse
	"	14	5	Clarence	McKales
	"	16	3	Belmont	Pitzrick
	"	21	25	W. Shelby	McKales
Canvasback	"	19	14	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Lesser Scaup	"	19 F	20	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	21	1	Clarence	McKales
Common Goldeneye	"	10 F	13	Tonawanda GMA	Morse
Bufflehead	"	15 F	1	Tonawanda GMA	Olsen
Oldsquaw	"	19 F	50	Allegheny Reservoir	Elderkin
	"	26	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
White-w. Scoter	"	19 F	24	Allegheny Reservoir	Elderkin
Common Merganser	"	3 F	1	Olean	Pitzricks
	"	3 F	14	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	23	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Red-br. Merganser	"	19 F	102	Allegheny State Pk.	Elderkin
	"	23	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Hooded Merganser	"	14 F	2	Oak Orchard WMA	McKales
	"	16	11	Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Turkey Vulture	"	13 F	1	Hamburg	Rew et al
	"	21	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	31	89	over Pinehurst	Andrle
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	10,25	1,1	Town of Tonawanda	Millard
Cooper's Hawk	"	1,18,26	1,1,1	Darien Center	Harper
	"	1-31	1	Belmont	Burtons
*Red-should. Hawk	"	14 F	1	Wolcottsville	McKales
	"	19	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	20	5	over Pinehurst	Andrle, Byron
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1,3,7	1,1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	1	2	Cuba	Pitzrick
	"	6	2	Jamestown	Elderkin
	"	11,26	2,1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	14	2	Town of Sheldon	Rosches

Bald Eagle	March	25	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
		(immature bird; no identification marker visible)		
American Coot	"	15 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Killdeer	"	5 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	11	4 Town of Ward	Burtons
	"	11,13	1,8 Town of Wales	Rosche
*Amer. Woodcock	"	19 F	5 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	21	1 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
*Common Snipe	"	31 F	5 Jamestown	Elderkin
*Greater Yellowlegs	"	30 F,31	1,1 Buffalo Harbor	Rew
Glaucous Gull	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Morst et al (BOS)
Snowy Owl	"	6	1 Town of Sheldon	McKales
	"	7	1 Buffalo Harbor	Rew
Short-eared Owl	"	18	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Belted Kingfisher	"	16 F	1 Kiantone	Elderkin
	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Common Flicker	"	15 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	15 F	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	31	1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	31	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	31	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-31	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
*Eastern Phoebe	"	24 F,27	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25,29	1,1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Tree Swallow	"	25 F	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	28	2 Tonawanda GMA	Andrle et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	2-29	1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	2-11	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	31	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Carolina Wren	"	29	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Gray Catbird	"	17	1 Port Colborne, Ont.	Sommerville
American Robin	"	11 F	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	11 F	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	11 F,12	8,23 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	11 F	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	11 F	18 Town of Amity	Burtons
	"	11 F	2 Wellsville	Burtons
	"	12	200 Jamestown	Elderkin
	"	12-31	4-12 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	14	100 Town of Wales	Rosche
*Eastern Bluebird	"	20 F,21-31	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	21-31	1-12 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	23-31	1-5 Alfred	Brooks
	"	23	2 Frewsburg	Elderkin
	"	25	5 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	28	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse (BOS)
	"	30	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Water Pipit	"	26 F,27	3,3 Jamestown	Elderkin
	"	28	60 Hamburg	Rew

Volume 48, No. 4 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Northern Shrike	March	1,2,12,27	1,1,1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	3	1	Town of Sheldon	Rosche
"	"	12	1	Frewsburg	Elderkin
"	"	31	1	Spring Brook	Danner
*E. Meadowlark	"	13 F	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	14	1	Town of Newstead	McKales
Red-w. Blackbird	"	2 F,4	1-2	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	2 F	3	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	14	100	Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	15	150	Alfred	Brooks
Rusty Blackbird	"	4 F	1	Belmont	Burtons
*Common Grackle	"	1 F	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	2	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
"	"	2	3	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	8-31	15-20	Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	13	40	Town of Tonawanda	Millard
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	1-31	1-15	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	15 F	3	Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-22	15	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	15-20	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	60	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1-31	1-10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	17,20,22	70,60,100	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
House Finch	"	1-31	6-12	Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	1-31	8-12	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-26	4	Buffalo	Rew
"	"	7,26	10,6	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	7-31	1-2	Town of Tonawanda	Millard
"	"	11-31	4	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	13-21	2	Buffalo	Rew
"	"	15-31	1-2	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	25,27	1,1	Iroquois NWR (f)	Olsen
Pine Grosbeak	"	20	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Common Redpoll	"	1-31	20-80	Rose Hill Road, Ont. (f)	Axtell
"	"	1-31	75	Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	1-31	1-51	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	1-23	17-75	Depew	Barbers
"	"	1-23	10-25	Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	1,4,24,31	10,50,25,50	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	2	40	Elma	Danner
"	"	6-30	1-22	Town of Ton. (f)	Millard
"	"	13-31	2-52	Hamburg (f)	Rew
"	"	25	100	Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	26,27,28	5,1,1	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
Pine Siskin	"	1-29	1-2	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	2,7	2,3	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	4	3	Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	26,31	3,6	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1-2	Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	3-5	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
"	"	26	3	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche

Volume 48, No. 4 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Fox Sparrow	March	27 F	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	31	1 Rose Hill Road, Ont. (f)	Axtell
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	1-3 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	4 F-31	1-20 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	13	12 Belmont	Burtions
	"	13	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	13-31	1-15 Alfred	Brooks
Snow Bunting	"	3	100 Arcade	Rosches
	"	6	50 Town of Wales	McKales
	"	7	15 Alfred	Brooks
	"	10	2 Town of Angelica	Burtions, Jordan
	"	14	1,000 Town of Sheldon	Rosches

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	100
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue.	23
Total for year	123

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of March 10, 1982

The meeting was opened by Vice-President Wavel Barber, substituting for the President. Wavel read the list of upcoming field trips.

Brad Lown announced that the April Bird Count is scheduled for April 18th, not April 28th as shown in "The Prothonotary".

Program: Dr. Harold Axtell gave a very informative talk on Hawk identification, emphasizing "fine points" for distinguishing those two most difficult birds, the Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. Study skins of nearly all of our local raptors were on display for close examination.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Maxine Barber

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of March 24, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy.

The Secretary's minutes (2 sets) were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Bob Brock, the Society's representative for the Breeding Bird Atlas Project, read a letter concerning uncovered areas, emphasizing the need for help in censusing remote areas.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of March 24, 1982 cont.

Walter Klabunde reported on the Hawk migration over Grimsby, Ontario.

A Brock University researcher would like some help in the autumn in an observation-based study of the roosting activities of Bonapartes Gulls in the vicinity of the Niagara River.

Program: Dr. Ralph Morris of Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, reported on the myriad of factors contributing to the decline in numbers of Common Terns. His exciting and enlightening talk focused on a recent trip to Trinidad, and was illustrated with slides. Surprisingly, in addition to noticeable and well-documented problems here in the Tern's breeding range, the birds also may be subject to stresses in their tropical wintering areas.

NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENT: The 35th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs is scheduled for October 1 - 3 at Riverhead, on Long Island. Hosted by the Moriches Bay Audubon Society, the meeting features field trips, evening workshops, a papers session and a banquet with an exciting speaker. For registration details contact Walter Klabunde, who is the Society's Federation representative.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of meeting topics and speakers through December 1982:

- September 22nd: 'Taxonomy'. Presented by Wavel Barber.
- October 13th: Report by Walt Klabunde on the most recent conference of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs.
- October 27th: Bob Andrle will report on the third year of progress with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- November 10th: Marie Wendling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.

For further information contact Mark Chelemer, Programs Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for late summer and autumn of 1982.

October 24th: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza in front of Citibank, or at 10:15 a.m. at the Cayuga Pool. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, N.Y. 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

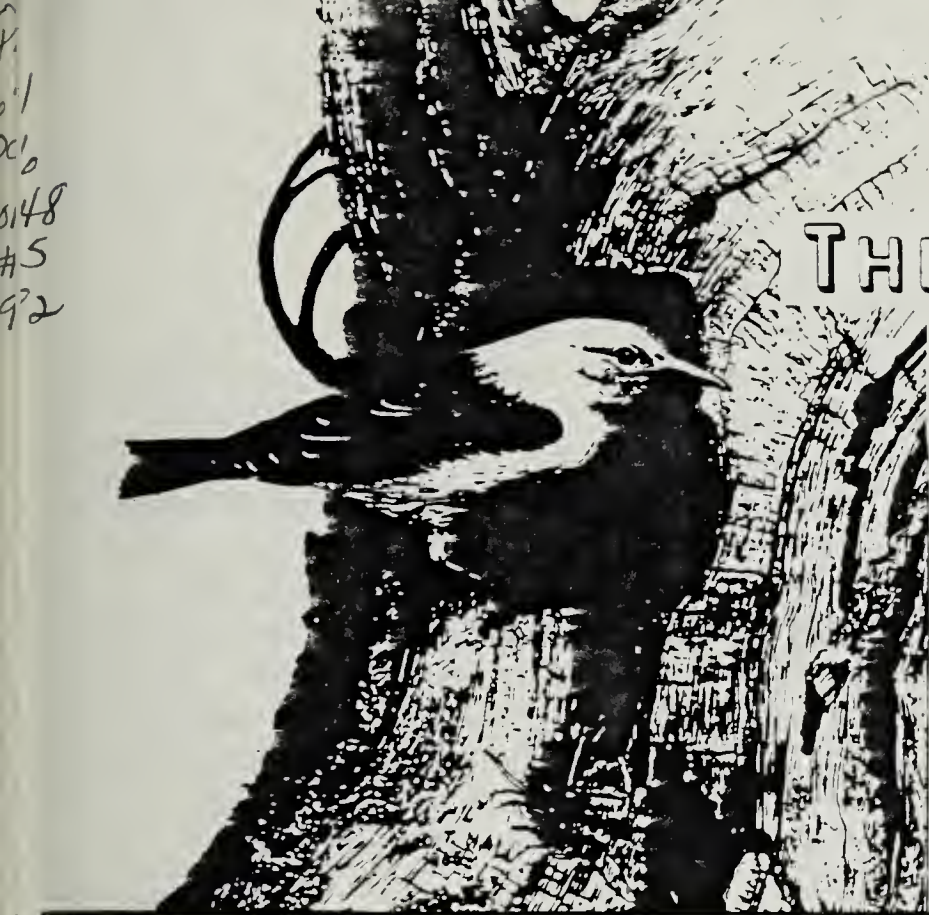
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, N.Y. 14222
(716) 882-7956

* * * * *

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS - Membership Application

If you are not already a member of the FNYSSBC, the membership application attached to this issue of the Prothonotary is to solicit your support. Members receive the Kingbird, a quarterly publication which articles often on rare species found in the state, as well as regular regional status reports on all species. Also, the Federation together with the NYSDEC are responsible for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas, both physically and financially. Those of you that are involved in this project realize the immense effort going into this project. Your membership will help to assure its success.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 1485

1982

VOLUME 48

MAY 1982

NUMBER 5

THE MONTH

April was a month of contrasts in weather activity. After a cool start, the temperature climbed to a balmy 60°(F) during the morning hours on April 3rd only to plummet into the 20° range when a cold front accompanied by thunder storms and gale force winds hit the area in the afternoon. There were heavy snow squalls on the 4th and a spring blizzard on April 6th left 6.4 inches of new snow on the ground at Greater Buffalo International Airport. A record low temperature of 12°(F) was recorded during the early morning hours of April 7th and the weather continued unseasonably cold until the 14th. During this period of cold and snowy weather early migrant passerines, mostly Juncos and Song Sparrows, joined winter finches at the feeding stations. One feeder in Hamburg attracted 27 species including a Red-bellied Woodpecker and there were 16 species, including 45 House Finches at a feeding station in Cheektowaga. In Allegany County, Vivian Pitzrick reported flocks of fringillids feeding on Buckthorn berries which she describes as 'a panic food'. By mid-month a warming trend had set in and the high temperature of the year to date, 81°(F) was recorded on April 16th before the weather became more seasonal again. The average temperature for the month was 41.6°(F), -3.3° below the norm. Precipitation measured 2.33 inches, -0.82 inches below average. Snowfall measured 10.9 inches, mostly in the heavy, unseasonable accumulations on the 4th and 6th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the cold weather of early April, the spring passage of migrants through our study area did not seem to be adversely affected. As soon as conditions became more spring-like at mid-month many interesting records were received. Flora Elderkin reported a Great Egret at Burgeson Sanctuary in Jamestown on April 15th. A Cattle Egret was seen at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by John Morse on April 30th. On April 10th, Fran Rew counted at least 185 and probably more Green-winged Teal alighting in flocks on a pond on the Swamp Road in the Town of Randolph in Cattaraugus County. It is the biggest single concentration of this species ever counted in our study area. The Barnacle Goose, first reported in these pages in March, was seen on several occasions at Cayuga Pool at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge during April. The first Canada Goose brood of the season, three goslings, was reported at the Refuge on April 30th.

The first Broad-winged Hawks of the season were reported over Pinehurst on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg on April 16th when Mike Zebehazy observed 35 birds. At the Beamer Point Conservation Area hawk lookout at Grimsby, Ontario, a few miles beyond the northern boundary of our study area, 64 Broad-wings, also the first of the season were seen on that date. There were no spectacular counts of Broad-wings or other buteos in April. The largest count of Broad-wings was 920 birds over Beamer Point on April 25th. Walter Klabunde reports that a total of 1859 Broad-wings and 3746 Sharp-shinned Hawks passed over the lookout in April. Other interesting raptors reported from Beamer Point in April include two adult Golden Eagles and three Bald Eagles, two immature birds and one adult. A Peregrine Falcon was seen on the 14th. On April 16th, Bob Andrie and a number of other observers obtained a good look at a large falcon soaring overhead during an excellent hawk flight at Pinehurst. Through the telescope, the bird's white breast and heavy black marks on each side of the face below the eye identified it as an adult Peregrine Falcon.

During the BOS bird count on April 18th, a very early Black-bellied Plover was observed by Art Schaffner and Mike Zebehazy in a field on Babion Road in the Town of Humberstone, Ontario. Also during the count, an early Dunlin was seen in a partially flooded field in the Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area by John Morse and Dick Christensen. There were two unconfirmed reports of Black-legged Kittiwakes in our area in April. On April 14th, one immature bird was seen in Dunkirk Harbor and on April 10th, a sub-adult Kittiwake was reported at Stafford's Pond in the Oak Orchard Wildlife Management Area. These are the first reports of overwintering birds of this species and only our second inland record.

Vivian Pitzrick discovered a Boreal Chickadee in a spruce grove near Amity Lake in the Town of Amity in Allegany County on April 23rd. On the 27th, the bird was seen again in a mixed oak-maple-hemlock woods about one-half mile from the first sighting. Odmond Olsen reported a very early Swainson's Thrush in the bushy undergrowth of a woods on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on April 22nd. Warbler migrants were reported as early as the 16th when a Yellow Warbler was heard singing in Buffalo. On April 29th, Clarence Klingensmith reported 100 migrant Yellow-rumped Warblers in the Village of Alfred in Allegany County with the comment that the number was "an estimate; there were Myrtles (sic) everywhere!" Klingensmith also reported a Prairie Warbler among the influx of parulids on that date. On April 22nd, William d'Anna and Elizabeth Potter, tyro bird-watchers from Niagara County, discovered a very early Prairie Warbler in a brushy area adjoining a creek in the Town of Wheatfield. Finally, Elizabeth Brooks reported banding 160 Pine Siskins in Allegany County during April. As the numbers of Common Redpolls appearing at feeders dwindled by mid-April, there was an irruption of sorts of Siskins with no sign of abatement by month's end.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	April	14	1 Mayville	Pitzrick
	"	14	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	24	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
	"	27	2 Allegany St. Park	Elderkin
	"	29	2 Dunkirk Harbor	McKales
Horned Grebe	"	24	13 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	24	60 Almond Dam	Brooks
	"	24	35 Amity Lake	Pitzrick, Adams
	"	24	14 East Aurora	Zebehazy
D.crest Cormorant	"	20	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Green Heron	"	24	2 East Aurora	Zebehazy
*Great Egret	"	15	1 Jamestown	Elderkin
Whistling Swan	"	14	10 Mayville	Pitzrick, Adams
Canada Goose	"	8	44,464 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(maximum count for month)	
Pintail	"	7	4,397 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
American Wigeon	"	7	1,056 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Green-w. Teal	"	10	185 Randolph	Rew
Northern Shoveler	"	15	3 Randolph	Elderkin
Ring-necked Duck	"	7	352 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Ruddy Duck	"	20	10 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
Turkey Vulture	"	15,16	14,48 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	4	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	16	47 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	20,22	2,1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	25	4 over Pinehurst	Rew et al
	"	28	1 Alfred	Brooks
Cooper's Hawk	"	3-27	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick et al
	"	4	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	4,18	1,1 Darien Center	Harper
	"	10	1 Town of Ashford	Rosches
	"	16	2 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	24,28	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	25	1 over Pinehurst	Rew et al
Red-tailed Hawk	"	16	51 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	25	6 over Pinehurst	Rew et al
*Broad-winged Hawk	"	16 F	35 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
	"	19	3 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
	"	25	16 over Pinehurst	Rew et al

Volume 48, No. 5 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Rough-leg. Hawk	April	15,16	1,1 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	25	2 over Pinehurst	Rew et al
"	"	28	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Marsh Hawk	"	16	2 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Bald Eagle	"	23	2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
(both immature birds; one with identification marking)				
*Osprey	"	15 F	1 Hamburg	Zebehazy
"	"	15 F,16	2,1 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	19	1 Lackawanna	Andrle, Foster
"	"	23,27	1,1 Town of Amity	Burtons
"	"	25	1 Wellsville	Pitzrick
"	"	25,28	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	30	1 Scio	Burtons
Peregrine Falcon	"	16	1 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
American Kestrel	"	16	9 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	25	3 over Pinehurst	Rew et al
*Virginia Rail	"	24 F	2 East Aurora	Zebehazy
Sora	"	20	1 Tonawanda WMA	Morse
"	"	24	2 East Aurora	Zebehazy
Common Gallinule	"	29	4 Tonawanda WMA	Morse
Common Snipe	"	1	1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	5,7	5,10 Riverside Marsh	Elderkin
Spotted Sandpiper	"	20	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Greater Yellowlegs	"	5	6 Riverside Marsh	Elderkin
"	"	5	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	16	24 Town of Hanover	Rew
"	"	17	15 Redbird	Rew
*Lesser Yellowlegs	"	7 F	1 Riverside Marsh	Elderkin
"	"	16	6 Town of Hanover	Rew
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	1 F,5	1,10 Riverside Marsh	Elderkin
"	"	17	7 Redbird	Rew
Common Tern	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	29	4 Dunkirk Harbor	McKales
*Caspian Tern	"	16 F	3 Cuba Lake	Burtons
"	"	24	1 Almond Dam	Brooks
"	"	25	2 Pinehurst	Rew et al
*Barred Owl	"	19,28	2,2 Alfred	Brooks
*Whip-poor-will	"	20	1 Alfred	Brooks
Common Flicker	"	15,16	173,5 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1,3,4	1,1,1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
*Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	10 F,16,23	1,2,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	14	2 Dunkirk	Pitzrick, Westle
"	"	14	1 Eggertsville	McKales
Belted Kingfisher	"	15	6 over Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Bank Swallow	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Rough-w. Swallow	"	14 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron
"	"	15,16	1,3 Pinehurst	Zebehazy
*Barn Swallow	"	15 F	1 Pinehurst	Zebehazy
"	"	16	2 Cuba	Burtons
"	"	16	2 Friendship	Burtons

Volume 48, No. 5 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Purple Martin	April	3 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	15,16	2,2 Pinehurst	Zebehazy
Boreal Chickadee	"	23,27	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-22	1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	20,29	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Brown Creeper	"	9 F	1 East Amherst	McKales
	"	22	3 Alfred	Klingensmith
*House Wren	"	16 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25,29	1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
Winter Wren	"	23	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Brown Thrasher	"	17 F-30	2-4 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	24	2 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	24-30	1-2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	24	1 Belmont	Burtons
*Wood Thrush	"	29 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Hermit Thrush	"	12 F	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	20,28	2,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	1-2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-30	2-16 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	26	2 Allegany Reservoir	Elderkin
	"	27	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
	"	28	2 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	22,27	1,1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	3,8,19	3,9,2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	4,28	1,2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	22	3 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	5 F,19	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	16-30	1-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	16	4 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*White-eyed Vireo	"	30	1 Williamsville	Yoerg
*Solitary Vireo	"	16 F,23	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25,28	1,1 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Yellow Warbler	"	27	2 East Aurora	Zebehazy
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	16 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	17-30	1-15 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	29	100 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Nashville Warbler	"	29 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Bl.-thr. Grn. Warbler	"	28 F,29	4,3 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Prairie Warbler	"	22 F	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
*Palm Warbler	"	22 F,29	1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	28	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
La. Waterthrush	"	20	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Northern Oriole	"	26 F	1 Town of Aurora	Zebehazy
Rusty Blackbird	"	15	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-30	1-21 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-30	3-10 Darien Center	Harper
	"	1-30	1-24 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	30-15 Belmont	Burtons
	"	10-17	20-50 Town of Wales (f)	Pitzrick
	"	22,29	15,15 Alfred	Klingensmith
House Finch	"	1-30	2-6 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	8-12 Belmont	Burtons

Volume 48, No. 5 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

House Finch	April	1-30	12-20	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
(cont.)	"	3,22	3,4	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	14,20	1,1	Darien Center	Harper
	"	20	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	25	2	Kenmore	Thills, Brunger
Common Redpoll	"	1-23	10-32	Hamburg	Rew
	"	1-21	1-10	Darien Center	Harper
	"	1-25	6-18	Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	1-8	1-20	Alfred	Brooks
	"	4,13,30	15,3,1	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	4	4	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	4	2	Belmont	Burtons
	"	5-23	3-30	Depew (f)	Barbers
	"	9	10	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
Pine Siskin	"	1-30	4-30	Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-30	1-15	Hamburg	Rew
	"	4-30	1-13	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	5-30	1-55	Alfred	Brooks
	"	15-30	2-35	Town of Aurora (f)	Zebehazy
	"	15-29	1-6	Depew (f)	Barbers
	"	18-31	3-40	Darien Center	Harper
	"	26-30	6-18	Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	29,30	1	Eggertsville (f)	McKales
Red Crossbill	"	18	12	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
	"	23	2	Alfred	Brooks
White-w. Crossvill	"	17,20,22	5,18,10	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	21	2	Alfred	Brooks
Savannah Sparrow	"	20	2	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Vesper Sparrow	"	6 F	1	Alfred	Brooks
Tree Sparrow	"	1-30	25-6	Belmont	Burtons
*Chipping Sparrow	"	16 F,27	1,1	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	16	1	Belmont	Burtons
	"	17-30	2-15	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Field Sparrow	"	5 F-30	1-8	Alfred	Brooks
	"	10-30	2-10	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
White-cr. Sparrow	"	19	1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	21	1	Belmont	Burtons
	"	26	1	Eggertsville	Hulls
White-thr. Sparrow	"	15 F,17	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	16,30	5,6	Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	16,25	1,2	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Swamp Sparrow	"	16 F	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	27	1	Alfred	Brooks
Fox Sparrow	"	10 L	3	Town of Amity	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 123

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. 29

(in April Count) 16

Total for year 169

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of April 14, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Upcoming Counts: The compilers are Brad Lown and Tom Harper for the April (18th) and May (16th) counts, respectively. To enlist in a territory contact a compiler.

Anita Gabalski of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences gave a short presentation explaining a program currently underway wherein data are being compiled about the bird life of New York State parks. She requested assistance in the form of any lists or field notes that Society members may have which relate to species occurrences in the parks:

Walter Klabunde gave an update on the hawk migration over Grimsby, Ontario.

Program: Bob Klips gave a slide-illustrated talk on the species concept in North American ornithology. The word species as relating to interbreeding or potentially interbreeding populations was defined. The idea of looking for functional reproductive isolation mechanisms operating between members of similar species was discussed as a means of determining that certain species are indeed separate. Some research reports on nesting gulls in the vicinity of Baffin Island in arctic Canada were reviewed, which suggest that very similar Thayers, Herring, Iceland and Glaucous Gulls recognize appropriate mates by looking at some fairly minute specific characteristics and thereby avoid interbreeding. By contrast, several rather different-looking Flickers (Red-shafted, Yellow-shafted, Gilded, et al) are now recognized as members of one species (Common Flicker) primarily on account of extensive interbreeding between types in the regions of range overlap.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

From Meeting Minutes submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Report of April Bird Count

Date: April 18, 1982

Compiled by Brad Lown

Weather: Temperature in the mid 30's(^oF) in the morning rising to the low 50's by afternoon. Overcast most of the day. Gusty winds all day.

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each: figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. An asterisk indicates first 1982 record for the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon - 31	Amer. Wigeon - 111
Horned Grebe - 49	Northern Shoveler - 51
Pied-billed Grebe - 20	Wood Duck - 113
D.-crest. Cormorant - 2 (2,11)	Redhead - 73
Gr. Blue Heron - 130	Ring-necked Duck - 133
*Green Heron - 3 (21,23,24)	Canvasback - 36 (5,9,11)
Great Egret - 2 (23)	Gr. Scaup - 850
Amer. Bittern - 1 (16)	Lesser Scaup - 595
Whistling Swan - 26 (5)	Com. Goldeneye - 706
Canada Goose - 13,096	Bufflehead - 1,058
Mallard - 1,019	Oldsquaw - 1,120
Black Duck - 53	King Eider - 2 (2)
Gadwall - 40	White-w. Scoter - 8 (4,8,20)
Pintail - 28	Hooded Merganser - 64
Green-w. Teal - 47	Common Merganser - 1,619
Blue-w. Teal - 308	Red-br. Merganser - 24,455

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 154	Marsh Hawk - 27
Goshawk - 1 (26)	Osprey - 14
Sharp-sh. Hawk - 19	Amer. Kestrel - 201
Cooper's Hawk - 14	Ruffed Grouse - 42
Red-tailed Hawk - 137	Ring-n. Pheasant - 41
Red-should. Hawk - 22	Turkey - 70
Broad-w. Hawk - 15	*Sora - 2 (10)
Rough-leg. Hawk - 23	*Com. Gallinule - 1 (11)
Bald Eagle - 1 (5)	Amer. Coot - 367

Shorebirds

Killdeer - 318	*Spotted Sandpiper - 3 (2,11)
*Black-bell. Plover - 1 (8)	Gr. Yellowlegs - 54
Amer. Woodcock - 16	Less. Yellowlegs - 47
Common Snipe - 29	Pectoral Sandpiper - 75 (16,23)
Upland Sandpiper - 1 (13)	* <u>Dunlin</u> - 1 (5)

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Jaegers - Flycatchers

Glaucous Gull - 2 (2)	Gr. Horned Owl - 21
Iceland Gull - 1 (8)	Barred Owl - 4 (23,24,26)
Ice. Gull (<u>L.g. glaucoides</u>) - 2 (2)	Long-eared Owl - 2 (26)
Gr. Black-b. Gull - 26	Belted Kingfisher - 77
Herring Gull - 3,106	Common Flicker - 512
Ring-billed Gull - 56,546	Pileated Woodpecker - 2 (11,26)
*Bl.-headed Gull - 1 (2)	Red-bell. Woodpecker - 24
Bonaparte's Gull - 20,037	*Red-headed Woodpecker - 11 (9,14,28)
Little Gull - 1 (3)	Yellow-b. Sapsucker - 31
*Common Tern - 271	Hairy Woodpecker - 94
Rock Dove - 1,007	Downy Woodpecker - 271
Mourning Dove - 732	Eastern Phoebe - 68
*Screech Owl - 2 (13,24)	

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark - 45	White-br. Nuthatch - 158
H. Lark (<u>E.a. praticola</u>) - 53	Red-br. Nuthatch - 35
Tree Swallow - 1,341	Brown Creeper - 50
*Bank Swallow - 5 (13)	*Winter Wren - 6 (8,11)
Rough-w. Swallow - 34	Carolina Wren - 1 (28)
Barn Swallow - 204	Mockingbird - 4
Cliff Swallow - 9 (5,13)	Gray Catbird - 13
Purple Martin - 160	Brown Thrasher - 14
Blue Jay - 543	American Robin - 6,057
Common Crow - 2,127	Hermit Thrush - 17
Black-c. Chickadee - 1,020	Eastern Bluebird - 51
Tufted Titmouse - 16	

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

*Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher - 5	Starling - 11,112
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 86	Yellow-r. Warbler - 41
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 167	*Pine Warbler - 1 (23)
Water Pipit - 31 (14,23)	*La. Waterthrush - 1 (21)
Cedar Waxwing - 194	House Sparrow - 2,301

Blackbirds - Finches

E. Meadowlark - 264	White-w. Crossbill - 2 (28)
Red-w. Blackbird - 8,249	Rufous-s. Towhee - 52
Rusty Blackbird - 126	*Savannah Sparrow - 28
Common Grackle - 11,152	Vesper Sparrow - 25
Brown-h. Cowbird - 1,651	Dark-eyed Junco - 1,177

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Blackbirds - Finches

(continued)

Cardinal - 398
Evening Grosbeak - 1,134
Purple Finch - 354
House Finch - 405
Common Redpoll - 299
Pine Siskin - 235
Amer. Goldfinch - 956
Red Crossbill - 4 (28)

Tree Sparrow - 258
Chipping Sparrow - 136
Field Sparrow - 81
*Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 15
Wh.-thr. Sparrow - 227
Fox Sparrow - 19
Swamp Sparrow - 26
Song Sparrow - 1,724

Total Species 142
Total Individuals 185,344

Comments: Noteworthy observations included a Black-bellied Plover in Section 8; 2 solitary Sandpipers in Sections 7 and 20; a Dunlin in Section 5; and a Black-headed Gull in Section 2.

The following species had all-time high numbers: Green Heron (3), Red-breasted Merganser (24,455), Broad-winged Hawk (15), Black-bellied Plover (1), Greater Yellowlegs (54), Lesser Yellowlegs (47), Ring-billed Gull (56,546), Black-headed Gull (1, tie), Bonaparte's Gull (20,037), Rough-winged Swallow (34), Cliff Swallow (9), Gray Catbird (13), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (5), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (167), Yellow-rumped Warbler (41), Pine Warbler (1, tie), La. Waterthrush (1), Purple Finch (354), and House Finch (405).

The following species were high compared to the last 10 years: Double-crested Cormorant (2), Turkey (70), Spotted Sandpiper (3), Dunlin (3), Common Tern (271), Purple Martin (160), and Hermit Thrush (17).

The following species were low compared to the last 10 years: Horned Grebe (49), Pied-billed Grebe (20), Whistling Swan (26), Canada Goose (13,016), Black Duck (53), Pintail (28), Canvasback (36), Ruddy Duck (0), Killdeer (318), Pileated Woodpecker (2), House Sparrow (2,301), and Red-winged Blackbird (8,249).

Sections and Observers: Many thanks are given to the section compilers and observers who combined to make this April Count a success. In the listing that follows, compiler's names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont.

Report not received.

2. Thorold, Ont.

Mark Chelemer, Robert Klips, Constance Trask,
Alan J. Smith.

Volume 48, No. 5 "Organization Activities" cont.

Report of April Bird Count cont.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Harriette & Walter Klabunde.</u> |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock</u> , Marge Harwitz. |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick Christensen</u> , Peggy Christensen, John Morse,
George Smith, Marion Smith. |
| 6. Port Maitlend, Ont. | Not covered. |
| 7. Lowbanks, Ont. | Not covered. |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Mike Zebehazy</u> , Art Schaffner. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Karen Renning</u> , Margaret and Jack Wright. |
| 10. Akron, N.Y. | <u>Wavel Barber</u> , Maxine Barber. |
| 11. Buffalo, N.Y. | <u>Peggy Daniels</u> , Julia Wells, Bob & Pauline Schwartz,
Audrey Horbett, Brad Lown, Peter Yoerg. |
| 12. Lancaster, N.Y. | <u>Marie Wendling</u> , Anne Bauer, Dorothy & Fred Danner,
Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Clara Hill, Gertrude Webster,
Cy Wolfling. |
| 13. Batavia, N.Y. | <u>George Mahoney</u> , Marie Mahoney, David Keller, Elva
Hawken, Donald Thureau. |
| 14. Hamburg, N.Y. | <u>Barbara Walker</u> , Miles Firey, Pat Firey, the Leonards,
Mr. & Mrs. Mauser, Agnes Orfeo, Thelma Pikett,
Bernice Rinehart. |
| 15. Java, N.Y. | <u>Bill Bogacki</u> , Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Art
Rosche, Olga Rosche. |
| 16. Angola, N.Y. | <u>Carolyn Frank</u> , Audrey Horbett, Allen Benton, Tom
Welch. |
| 17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. | Not covered. |
| 18. Delevan, N.Y. | <u>Jane & Don Clark.</u> |
| 19. Fillmore, N.Y. | <u>Katherine Palmer</u> , Margaret Koufman, Mr. & Mrs.
Howard Long, Mr. & Mrs. Harland Hale, Faye Clancy,
Lois Harvey, Mr. & Mrs. Les Fish, Marjorie Main,
Edna Marvin, Helen Morse, John Nelson, Roger
Nicholson, Jean Perry, Midge & H.K. Smith, Victor
Carpenter, Alice Evans, Andrew Mullen, James Mullen,
Larry Wilson, Ruth Gilman. |

Report of April Bird Count cont.

20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Frances M. Rew, Paul Baglia, Allen Benton, Nancy Bowser, Lois Buck, Doug & Kevin Carlson, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Judy & Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Dick Miga, Terry Mosher, Austine Richardson, Louise Wood.
21. Cheary Creek, N.Y. Robert Sundell, Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Allen & Margaret Findlay, Julie Heilman, Henry Huston, Mary Kapple, Lewis Kibler, Dorothy Pihlblad, Mary Anne Reiber-Davis, Carol Roby, Patricia Sundell, Ruth Vancy.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Robert Sundell, Charles Johnson, Harold Johnson, James Lee, Floyd Miller, Katherine Ponton.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, Theodore & Flora Elderkin, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Stephen Maggio, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Robert & Mary Shaul, Mabel Van Guilder.
24. Allegany S.P., N.Y. John & Mary Forness, Michele & George Bush, Tim Baird, Bill Forness, Donna & Frank Gluck.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Tim Baird, E.O. Herron, O. Wing, C. Wing, H. Munson, Alene Johnson, Lucille Bordonaro, Regina Van Scoy, James Van Scoy, Meredith Van Scoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Bruce & Bob Smalley, Ann Scott, Betty & John Compton, Dustin Fleming, Alfred Voorhies.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Richmond, Lillian Simons, Betty Hooker, Celestia K. Abbott, Sharon Baumgardner, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Helen Link, Helen K. Apsey, Harold Babcock.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Lorry Chapman, Betsy Brooks, Ann & Pete Eisenhardt, Peter & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Barbara Keough, Margaret & Clarence Klingensmith, Susan Leamer, Ruth Paige, Beverly Perry, Suzanne Wood.
29. Almond, N.Y. Dorothy Bayless, Russell Allen, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Sonja & Tara Brink, Vivien Brownell, James Copenheaver, Martha DeLa Vergne, Agnes Fritz, Louise & Jay Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Violet Sharrett, Gladys & Allen Witter.

Report of April Bird Count cont.

30. Andover, N.Y. Conner Stephens, Bea Common, Jim Ninos, Mrs. Alan Tuttle.
31. Belmont, N.Y. Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Lou & Doris Burton, David & Roberta Clark, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, Andrew Mullen, Grace Buckley, Dale Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Claribel James, Genevieve McQueen, Margaret Nickerson, Lynn Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Theodore Vossler.
32. Wellsville, N.Y. Erma Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mrs. Richard Ewell, Christine Ferrand, Dan Nicholson, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart, David & Ona Reynolds.

Total Observers: 238

1008 Charlesgate Circle, E. Amherst, N.Y. 14051

NOTES

Request for Information about State Park Bird Life

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, in cooperation with the New York State Science Service, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Environmental Education Program at Cornell University, is initiating a study of bird life in New York State Parks. Its primary purpose is to gather information on the bird life of units of the State Park and Recreation System. We solicit assistance from individuals and groups who have data on the presence of birds in these units at any season of the year. These data will help develop conservation education resource materials to facilitate public use and enjoyment of State parks and historic sites by that sector of the public interested in bird life and ecology. If you possess information you think might be useful, please send your name, address, and telephone number on a post card to: Anita Gabalski, Principal Researcher, at Stone Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 14853. This project is funded by the Jackson Hole Preserve, Incorporated.

Color-Marked Terns

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Region, is continuing its program of color-marking Common Terns at two colonies in the lower Great Lakes to determine their post-breeding dispersal, migration routes and winter range.

In 1981 adults were marked with orange wing-tags and chicks with pink tags. Many of the adult tagged birds returned to their colonies in 1982 still carrying their tags. The tagged birds appeared fit and nested normally. Most tags were still clearly legible and showed little wear.

Color-Marked Terns cont.

In 1982 bright blue wing tags (with black lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and black tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks just prior to fledging. Tags were put on both wings of all birds. All tags have combinations of letters and numbers (the two tags on any bird have the same combination). When you observe a tagged Tern would you please report the date, location, color of the tag, and, if possible, the number/letter combination to: BANDING OFFICE, CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE, HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA, K1A 0E7. All reports will be acknowledged.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of meeting topics and speakers through December 1982:

- October 13th: Report by Walt Klabunde on the most recent conference of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. Report by David Cooper on interactions between birds and aircraft.
- October 27th: Bob Andrie will report on the third year of progress with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- November 10th: Marie Wendling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.

For further information contact Mark Chelemer, Programs Committee Chairperson (855-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the remainder of 1982.

- October 10th: October Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Townsend (691-7775).
- October 24th: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza in front of Citibank, or at 10:15 a.m. at the Cayuga Pool. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762).
- November 14th: Dunkirk Harbor and Chautauqua Lake. Leader: Fran Rew (649-4192). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland in Hamburg or 8:30 a.m. at the pier, Dunkirk Harbor.

November 21st: Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Harriet and Walter Klabunde (754-4424) B.O.S., and Gordon Meade (248-2032) G.O.S. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.

December 19th: Christmas Bird Count.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, New York 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: In addition to the contributors referenced above, assistance in the production of this issue of the Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake, Jean Babcock.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222
(716) 882-7956

71
06
48
16
82



THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850
NOV 01 1982

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 48

JUNE 1982

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

May was warm and springlike with no major weather disturbances. The average temperature for the month was 61.0° (F), 5.9° above the norm. Precipitation measured 3.66 inches of rainfall, 1.76 falling during heavy downpours on the 22nd. 55% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Many interesting and even exciting ornithological observations were reported in May. Two Great Egrets were present at Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge from May 10th through the end of the month. Great Egrets were also seen at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo and at Buckhorn Island State Park on Grand Island. On May 29th, in the course of his field work on behalf of the State Federation of Bird Clubs Bird Atlas project, Robert Andrle was surprised to observe a sizeable migration of hawks over the Town of Brant in southwestern Erie County with a few birds, also obvious migrants, in the Towns of Evans and Orchard Park. Andrle counted 'kettles' of approximately 215 Broad-winged Hawks moving on brisk southerly winds over Brant with an immature Bald Eagle and an Osprey as a pleasant bonus! All of the Broad-wings appeared to be immature birds, apparently non-nesting, late wanderers.

On May 18th, John Morse saw a Northern Phalarope, a most unusual Spring migrant in these climes, in the Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The bird was probably a male in breeding plumage with chestnut coloring on the neck, a white throat and uniformly dark head and back of the neck; it was swimming in characteristic phalarope fashion - in circles while feeding - in open water. A second bird of this species, also a probable male in breeding plumage, was seen by Doug Happ and Paul Reed swimming in a sewage treatment pond behind the Iroquois Central School on Bullis Road in Elma.

A very late Iceland Gull was reported from Dunkirk Harbor on May 14th. A very late Snowy Owl was observed by Grace O'Dell on Ohio Street near Buffalo Harbor on May 21st.

John Morse reported two Golden-crowned Kinglets singing in the spruce tree plantation on the Swallow Hollow Trail on the Knowlesville Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on May 16th. This is a putative nesting location for this species in Western New York.

On May 17th, Vivian Pitzrick discovered a male Prairie Warbler singing in an overgrown, bushy field approximately 1/2 mile south of Amity Lake in the Town of Amity in Allegany County. Mrs. Pitzrick located the singer again on May 27th and also a female carrying nesting material into a Crataegus shrub where it was observed constructing a nest some eight feet from the ground. The find represents another new nesting locale for this hitherto uncommon warbler in Southwestern New York. On May 18th, Mrs. Pitzrick flushed a female Yellow-rumped Warbler from a nest in a Norway Spruce on Reddy Road in the Town of Amity; a male of this species was seen nearby. The nest contained two eggs and it is a possible record early nesting date for this warbler in New York State. On the 25th, this tireless observer found a second pair of Yellow-rumped Warblers nesting in another Norway Spruce in the same conifer plantation. This nest also contained two eggs. On May 27th, Bob Andrie and Jim and Norma Gregory had good views of a male Lawrence's Warbler singing on territory in an overgrown pasture behind St. Joseph's Cemetery on N.Y. Route #16 in the Town of Holland. It is presumed to be the same bird which was paired with a female Blue-winged Warbler at this location in 1981. (See Prothonotary, Vol. 47:7, Pg. 91.) This presumption is made credible by the infrequent appearance of this rare hybrid in our study area and the unique song of the individual seen, matching note for note that of the male Lawrence's Warbler at that location in 1981.

On May 8th, a rainy Saturday, a party of Allegany County bird-watchers on a field trip led by Harland Hale, entered the Keeney Swamp area of the Town of Birdsall. As the group passed through a maple woods on the south side of the swamp, an unfamiliar loud two syllable bird song came repeatedly from some young saplings in the underbrush. One of the observers, Doug Bassett, spotted the songster flitting about in the saplings, a warbler with a yellow breast, olive-green back and diagnostic black 'sideburns' extending from the eye to the base of the neck - a male Kentucky Warbler! The bird was subsequently seen by five observers in the group which included Sharon Baumgardner, Elizabeth Brooks, Clarence Klingensmith and Vivian Pitzrick. This species is a very rare summer resident in the deciduous woods of Southwestern New York and it was a 'life bird' for three of the observers. Unfortunately, the warbler could not be located again in later field trips to the site.

Finally, two Western Meadowlarks were heard singing in fields near Mohawk Point in Sherbrooke Township, Ontario on May 2nd. Numerous reports of Pine Siskins visiting feeders in our study area continued to be received in May.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Great Egret	May	10-30	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	31	1 Eggertsville	McKales
Amer. Bittern	"	8	1 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
Canada Goose	"	6-24	2 Town of Wales	Hein
	"	6	1,426 Iroquois NWR	Morse
		(counted after departure of most migrants on 5th)		
Pintail	"	27	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Ruddy Duck	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	8	1 Town of Wales	Hein
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(at nest)		
	"	7	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	15	1 Town of Wales	Hein
	"	19,25	1,1 Belmont	Burtons
Broad-winged Hawk	"	29	215 Town of Brant	Andrle
	"	29	6 Town of Evans	Andrle
	"	29	37 Town of Orchard Park	Andrle
		(all immature birds in migration)		
Bald Eagle	"	29	1 Town of Brant	Andrle
		(immature bird)		
Osprey	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1,2,3,12,24	1,1,1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	2	1 Wellsville	Burton
	"	29	1 Town of Brant	Andrle
	"	29	1 Orchard Park	Andrle
*Upland Sandpiper	"	2 F	2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	8	1 Town of Birdsall	Brooks et al
*Solitary Sandpiper	"	1 F	1 Langford	McKales
*Short-b. Dowitcher	"	14 F	3 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
*Northern Phalarope	"	18	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	24	1 Town of Elma	Happ, Reid
*Black-b. Cuckoo	"	14 F	2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	17-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
Snowy Owl	"	21 L	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Common Nighthawk	"	19	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	25	1 Alfred	Brooks

Volume 48, No. 6 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Chimney Swift	May	1 F-31	1-8 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	2	1 Wellsville	Pitzrick
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	"	17-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	17-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtions
	"	18	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	2	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	3,4	1 Belmont	Burtions
	"	18	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	8	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	8	1 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Eastern Kingbird	"	3 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	6-31	2-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Gr. Crest. Flycatcher	"	6 F-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	7	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Willow Flycatcher	"	18	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	25	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Alder Flycatcher	"	20-31	3-8 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	20 F-31	1-7 Alfred	Brooks
*Least Flycatcher	"	5 F	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Morse,
	"			Christensen
	"	7-31	2-16 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	25 F	1 Eggertsville	McKales
*E. Wood Pewee	"	6 F-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	9-31	2-3 Spring Brook	Danner
Bank Swallow	"	6	6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-20	1 Town of Wales	Hein
	"	1-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	6	12 Town of Amherst	McKales
Carolina Wren	"	14-25	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Mockingbird	"	2	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
Gray Catbird	"	3	1 Belmont	Burtions
	"	6-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Wood Thrush	"	2-31	2-6 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	5-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Swainson's Thrush	"	21-27	1 Depew	Barbers
*Veery	"	7 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	20-31	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	2-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1-31	4 Alfred	Brooks
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	5	3 Town of Amherst	McKales
	"	14	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	8	12 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
	"	17	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	20,27	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	15 F-31	1-3 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	20	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
*Red-eyed Vireo	"	9 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	11-31	2-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick

*Warbling Vireo	May	7 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	14-31	3-8 Spring Brook	Danner
*Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	8 F	1 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
"	"	14	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Golden-w. Warbler	"	10 F	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
"	"	11,13	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Blue-w. Warbler	"	6 F-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	8-31	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
*Lawrence's Warbler	"	27	1 Town of Holland	Andrle, Gregorys
*Tennessee Warbler	"	7 F	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
"	"	12-31	5-8 Spring Brook	Danner
*Magnolia Warbler	"	6 F-31	1-14 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	25	2 Buffalo	Barbers
*Cape May Warbler	"	6 F	5 Beaver Island St. Pk.	McKales
"	"	8	1 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
*Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler	"	6 F	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
"	"	13	1 Alfred	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1	75 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	18	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
(adult at nest, two eggs; possible record early date)				
*Blackburnian Warbler	"	14 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	15-31	1-10 Alfred	Brooks
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	6 F-31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	7	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
Blackpoll Warbler	"	18	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Bay-br. Warbler	"	7 F	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
"	"	13,19,25	1,1,3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Pine Warbler	"	17	1 Town of Wales	Hein
"	"	28	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Prairie Warbler	"	13-30	1-3 Town of Alfred	Brooks
(all at previously documented nesting sites)				
"	"	17,27	1,2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
(pair at nest)				
"	"	30	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Ovenbird	"	6 F-31	1-4 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	7-31	2-6 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
*Nor. Waterthrush	"	5 F	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
"	"	8	4-12 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
*Kentucky Warbler	"	8	1 Keeney Swamp	Bassett, Baum- gardner, Brooks, Pitzrick, Klingensmith et al
Mourning Warbler	"	17	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	20	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Common Yellowthroat	"	1 F-31	1-10 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	5-31	1-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Yellow-br. Chat	"	18	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Canada Warbler	"	20	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	21	1 Alfred	Klingensmith

Volume 48, No. 6 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

*Wilson's Warbler	May	8 F	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	O'Dell
"	"	31	1 Town of Wales	Hein
*Amer. Redstart	"	7 F	3 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	12-31	1-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Bobolink	"	3 F	1 Town of Oakfield	Morse
"	"	6-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
"	"	6	1 Town of Angelica	Burton, Jordan
*Orchard Oriole	"	17-31	2 <u>Town of Evans</u>	Andrle
*Scarlet Tanager	"	7 F-31	2-5 <u>Town of Amity</u>	Pitzrick
"	"	7 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	8-31	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
*Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	5 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	5 F-31	4-14 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	7-31	2-7 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	22 L	2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
House Finch	"	1,19	4,3 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	1-31	3-5 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	8-16 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	4,16	1,5 Alfred	Brooks
Pine Siskin	"	1-30	1-14 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-17	180 Alfred	Brooks
(all banded and released)				
"	"	1-28	1-50 Eggertsville	Hulls
"	"	2,3	3 Town of Wales	Hein
"	"	3,4	20,10 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	5	2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	10,11,12,30,31	1,2,1,3,3 Depew	Barbers
"	"	25	2 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
White-w. Crossbill	"	5	20 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	8	1 Keeney Swamp	Pitzrick et al
"	"	11,17,21	20,18,8 Alfred	Brooks
Savannah Sparrow	"	1-31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	25,27	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Lincoln's Sparrow	"	6 F,8	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
Tree Sparrow	"	1-4 L	8-4 Belmont	Burtons
Swamp Sparrow	"	8	20 Keeney Swamp	Brooks et al

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 169

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. 37

(in May count) 31

Total for year 237

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of May 12, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy, and the Secretary's minutes were approved as read.

Fran Rew and Walter Klabunde solicited participation and assistance in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored "Mini-runs", censusing singing birds along established routes during Spring.

Jack Wright gave an update on the "Mud Riders" situation at Buckhorn Island State Park (Grand Island). With free access to the site, like there is at present, dune-buggy riders and other vandals are littering and destroying bird habitats. The cooperation of Park officials is being sought in blocking off the illegal entrance.

Program: John Morse of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge discussed this fine birding site.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Report of May Bird Count

Date: May 16, 1982

Compiled by Tom Harper

Weather: Warm, high 40's in the morning, low 70's in the afternoon. Winds 5-10 m.p.h., sunny most of the day.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. An asterisk indicates first 1982 record for the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon - 19
Horned Grebe - 14
Pied-billed Grebe - 13
D.-crest. Cormorant - 7 (5,6,7)
Gr. Blue Heron - 213
Green Heron - 86
Bl.-cr. Night Heron - 7 (3,20,22)
Least Bittern - 2 (6,11)
Amer. Bittern - 11
Canada Goose - 450
Mallard - 503
Black Duck - 4 (10,13)
Gadwall - 19
Pintail - 6 (6,10,24)

Green-w. Teal - 4 (13,23)
Blue-w. Teal - 61
American Wigeon - 11
No. Shoveler - 4 (10)
Wood Duck - 168
Ring-necked Duck - 2 (9)
Greater Scaup - 43
Lesser Scaup - 9 (6)
Bufflehead - 35
Oldsquaw - 121 (3)
White-w. Scoter - 1 (20)
Hooded Merganser - 16
Common Merganser - 23
Red-br. Merganser - 1,087

Report of May Bird Count cont.

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 92	Amer. Kestrel - 79
Sharp-sh. Hawk - 12	Ruffed Grouse - 75
Cooper's Hawk - 9	Ring-n. Pheasant - 128
Red-tailed Hawk - 175	Turkey - 40
Red-should. Hawk - 28	Virginia Rail - 1 (11)
Broad-wing. Hawk - 21	Sora - 5 (10,23)
Rough-legg. Hawk - 1 (28)	Common Gallinule - 18
Marsh Hawk - 18	Amer. Coot - 6 (10,12,13)
Osprey - 5	

Shorebirds

*Semipalm. Plover - 8 (4,20,23) F	Greater Yellowleg - 10
Killdeer - 445	Lesser Yellowlegs - 29
*Black-bell. Plover - 6 (7,11) F	Pectoral Sandpiper - 12
Amer. Woodcock - 31	*Least Sandpiper - 86 F
Common Snipe - 13	Dunlin - 32 (6,7)
Upland Sandpiper - 7	*Semipalm. Sandpiper - 4 (8) F
Spotted Sandpiper - 208	*Sanderling - 1 (24) F
Solitary Sandpiper - 47	*Ruddy Turnstone - 13 (7,14)

Jaegers - Flycatchers

Great Black-b. Gull - 46 (9)	*Ruby-t. Hummingbird - 46 F
Herring Gull - 746	Belted Kingfisher - 116
Ring-b. Gull - 4,580	Common Flicker - 288
Bonaparte's Gull - 51	Pileated Woodpecker - 26
unidentified gulls - 350	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 28
Common Tern - 78	Red-headed Woodpecker - 49
Caspian Tern - 5 (8,20)	Yellow-b. Sapsucker - 16
*Black Tern - 15 F	Hairy Woodpecker - 99
Rock Dove - 1,046	Downy Woodpecker - 217
Mourning Dove - 1,218	Gr.-crested Flycatcher - 237
*Yellow-b. Cuckoo - 6 F	Eastern Phoebe - 198
Black-b. Cuckoo - 20	Yellow-b. Flycatcher - 1 (25)
Screech Owl - 2 (13,20)	*Acadian Flycatcher - 1 (20) F
Great Horned Owl - 28	*Willow Flycatcher - 15 F
Barred Owl - 19	*Alder Flycatcher - 4 (19,24) F
Whip-poor-will - 2 (20)	Least Flycatcher - 218
*Common Nighthawk - 13 F	E. Wood Pewee - 93
Chimney Swift - 599	*Olive-s. Flycatcher - 5 F

Report of May Bird Count cont.

Lark - Thrushes

Horned Lark (<u>E. praticola</u>) - 77	House Wren - 430
Tree Swallow - 846	Winter Wren - 1 (8)
Bank Swallow - 315	Carolina Wren - 4
Rough-w. Swallow - 137	*Long-b. Marsh Wren - 11 F
Barn Swallow - 2,090	Mockingbird - 6
*Cliff Swallow - 142 F	Gray Catbird - 904
Purple Martin - 565	Brown Thrasher - 105
Blue Jay - 1,277	Amer. Robin - 4,781
Common Crow - 1,382	Wood Thrush - 495
Bl.-cap. Chickadee - 776	Hermit Thrush - 17
Tufted Titmouse - 30	*Swainson's Thrush - 38 F
White-br. Nuthatch - 206	*Gray-ch. Thrush - 2 (11,23) F
Red-br. Nuthatch - 56	Veery - 112
Brown Creeper - 11	Eastern Bluebird - 100

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher - 36	Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler - 39
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 13	Yellow-r. Warbler - 248
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 25	Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler - 201
Water Pipit - 188	*Cerulean Warbler - 28 F
Cedar Waxwing - 395	Blackburnian Warbler - 84
*Loggerhead Shrike - 1 (22) F	Chestnut-s. Warbler - 210
Starling - 4,533	Bay-br. Warbler - 9
<u>White-eyed Vireo</u> - 1 (24)	*Blackpoll Warbler - 6 F
Yellow-thr. Vireo - 39	Pine Warbler - 6 (8,14,28)
Solitary Vireo - 34	Prairie Warbler - 11 (23,28)
Red-eyed Vireo - 323	Palm Warbler - 1 (28)
*Philadelphia Vireo - 9 F	Ovenbird - 220
Warbling Vireo - 163	Nor. Waterthrush - 48
Bl. &-w. Warbler - 29	La. Waterthrush - 15
Golden-w. Warbler - 17	*Mourning Warbler - 31 F
Blue-w. Warbler - 154	Common Yellowthroat - 981
Tennessee Warbler - 334	*Yellow-br. Chat - 5 F
Nashville Warbler - 65	*Hooded Warbler - 28 F
*Northern Parula - 8 F	Wilson's Warbler - 17
Yellow Warbler - 2,194	*Canada Warbler - 46 F
Magnolia Warbler - 93	Amer. Redstart - 390
Cape May - 39	House Sparrow - 2,531

Blackbirds - Finches

Bobolink - 1,234	Scarlet Tanager - 135
E. Meadowlark - 378	Cardinal - 664
Red-w. Blackbird - 7,470	Rose-br. Grosbeak - 455
Northern Oriole - 849	*Indigo Bunting - 162 F
Common Grackle - 5,762	Evening Grosbeak - 195
Brown-h. Cowbird - 1,058	Purple Finch - 338

Report of May Bird Count cont.

Blackbirds - Finches

(continued)

House Finch - 300	Vesper Sparrow - 21
Pine Siskin - 332	Dark-eyed Junco - 136
Amer. Goldfinch - 2,370	Chipping Sparrow - 973
White-w. Crossbill - 18 (28)	Field Sparrow - 355
*Rufous-s. Towhee - 225 F	Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 258
Savannah Sparrow - 177	Wh.-thr. Sparrow - 129
*Grasshopper Sparrow - 6 F	Swamp Sparrow - 126
*Henslow's Sparrow - 13 F	Song Sparrow - 2,114

Total Species: 197

Total Individuals: 69,903

Comments: Horned Grebe 14 (10 year high), Blue-w. Teal 61 (lowest since 1963), Wood Duck 168 (highest ever, previous high 145 in 1979), Oldsquaw 121 (10 year high), Red-br. Merganser 1,087 (highest ever, previous high 661 in 1942), Common Snipe 13 (lowest since 1962), Solitary Sandpiper 47 (highest ever, previous high 41 in 1977), Lesser Yellowlegs 29 (highest ever, previous high 22 in 1947), Least Sandpiper 86 (10 year high), Gr. Black-b. Gull 46 (highest ever, previous high 26 in 1967), Herring Gull 746 (highest since 1961), Black Tern 15 (lowest since 1945), Great Horned Owl 28 (ties previous high set in 1977), Barred Owl 19 (ties previous high set in 1966), Red-bellied Woodpecker 28 (highest ever, previous high 22 in 1976), Gr.-crest. Flycatcher 237 (highest ever, previous high 236 in 1975), Purple Martin 565 (lowest since 1957), Tufted Titmouse 30 (highest ever, previous high 27 in 1971), Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher 36 (highest ever, previous highs 27 in 1974 and 1975), Water Pipit 188 (highest ever, previous high 117 in 1935), Loggerhead Shrike 1 (10 year high), Yellow-thr. Vireo 39 (highest ever, previous high 36 in 1950), Yellow Warbler 2,194 (10 year high), Cerulean Warbler 28 (10 year high), Pine Warbler 6 (highest since 1947), Nor. Waterthrush 48 (highest since 1939), La. Waterthrush 15 (highest ever, previous highs 14 in 1950 and 1979), Common Yellowthroat 981 (highest ever, previous high 770 in 1976), Amer. Redstart 390 (10 year high), House Finch 300 (highest ever, previous high 230 in 1981), Pine Siskin 332 (10 year high), White-w. Crossbill 18 (highest since 1961), Savannah Sparrow 177 (lowest since 1959).

Sections and Observers: The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined. Total observers - 271.

1. Fonthill, Ont. No report received.
2. Thorold, Ont. No report received.

Report of May Bird Count cont.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Walter Klabunde</u> , <u>Harriette Klabunde</u> , David Cooper, Ernest Dishaw, Jr., Charles Dishaw, Tina Dishaw, Dr. Ralph Minervina. |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock</u> , Marge Harwitz. |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick Christensen</u> , Peggy Christensen, John Morse, Odmund Olsen, George Smith. |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Ed Williams</u> , Wes Siegner, Claire Siegner. |
| 7. Lowbank, Ont. | <u>Blayne Farnan</u> , Brad Clemens, Mr. & Mrs. White. |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Marc Chelemer</u> , Harvey Cox. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Karen Renning</u> , Stanley King, Marge & Jack Wright. |
| 10. Akron, N.Y. | <u>Robert Wagner</u> . |
| 11. Buffalo, N.Y. | <u>Peggy Daniels</u> , Adurey Horbett, Bob & Pauline Schwartz. |
| 12. Lancaster, N.Y. | <u>Marie Wendling</u> , Anna Bauer, Ima Bill, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Gertrude Webster, Cy Wolfling. |
| 13. Batavia, N.Y. | <u>Max & Jane Mason</u> , George Mahaney, David Keller, Don Thuray, Elva Hawken, David Whitcomb, Marge Pixley, Bob & Eileen Hull, Dave Thompson. |
| 14. Hamburg, N.Y. | <u>Barbara Walker</u> , Lucille & Bob Leonard, Peter Palmer, Miles Firey, Lynn Rochester, Pat Firey, Marian Dornhaffer, David & Dee Bigelow, Lois Abbott, Phyl Hanson, Mr. & Mrs. Mauser, Mr. & Mrs. Matlock, |
| 15. Java, N.Y. | <u>Bill Bogacki</u> , Esther Becker, Art & Olga Rosche. |
| 16. Angola, N.Y. | <u>Audrey Horbett</u> , Carolyn Frank. |
| 17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. | <u>Wavel & Maxine Barber</u> . |
| 18. Delevan, N.Y. | <u>Don & Jane Clark</u> . |
| 19. Fillmore, N.Y. | <u>Allegany County Bird Club</u> , Katherine Palmer, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Lang, Dora Lilly, Jane Moore, Emma Burr, Mr. & Mrs. Hale, Victor Carpenter, Andrew Mullen, Larry Wilson, Jean & Richard Wilson, Josephine Main, Marjorie Main, Louise, Melissa & Lydia Mills, Helen Morse, Jean Perry, Ruth Richardson, Marion & Emmette Smith, H.K. & Midge Smith. |

Report of May Bird Count cont.

20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Allen Benton, Nancy Bowser, Lois Buck, Doug Carlson, Joanne Geotz, Morgan Jones, Terry Mahoney, Dick Miga, Fran Rew, Tom Welch.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Julie Heilman, Lewis Kibler, Frances Lapinski, Dorothy Pihlblad, Kay Ponton, Carol Roby.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Flora Elderkin, Charles Johnson, Tina Nelson, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Ora Stanford, Jim Waterman.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Dan Cordosi, Flora Elderkin, Allen & Margaret Findlay, Dave Gagne, Frank Gardner, Harold Johnson, Jim Lee, Steve Maggio, Floyd Miller, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Mary Shaul.
24. Allegany State Park, NY John & Mary Forness, George & Michelle Bush, Tim Baird.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Lucille Bordonaro, Charles & Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Fred Meyer, Regina, James & Meredith Van Scoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Bruce Smalley, Ann & Morris Scott, Sharon Baumgardner, Betty & John Compton, Dustin Fleming, Sylvia Foster, Jean Goldthwait, Alfred Voorhies.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Marjorie & Robert Richmond, Lillian & Stella Simons, Celestia Abbott, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Helen Apsey, Harold Badcock, Dolly Hawkins, Helen Link.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Lorry Chapmen, Dorothy & Warren Bouck, Betsy & Warren Brooks, Vivien Carr, Lois Chapman, Carla Coch, Harriet & Larry Deverell, Ann & Jamie Eisenhardt, Pete & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Barbara Keough, Margaret & Clarence Klingensmith, Ellen Lamb, Susan Leamer, Cathy MacDonald, Peggy & Danny Rase, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Suzanne Wood, Mary Ormsby.

Report of May Bird Count cont.

28. cont.

Dorothy Bayless, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Sonja & Tara Brink, Vivien Brownell, Jim & Susan Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Agnes & Howard Fritz, Louise & Jay Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Linn Phelan, Violet Sharrett, Gladys & Allen Witter.

Connor Stephens, Bea Common, Wisner Cook, Kathy Kent, Ken & Marion McClure, Jim Ninos, Mrs. Alan Tuttle, Bill Walker.

Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford & Ruth Button, Roberta Clark, Raymond Pitzrick.

Vera Brown, Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Claribel James, Frank James, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Theodore & Lorena Vossler.

Erma Larson, Margaret Barnett, Mrs. Ira Brown, Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Christine Ferrand, Helen Graves, David Reynolds, Douglas & Ona Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart.

903 Broadway, Darien Center, N.Y. 14040

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of May 26, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy, and the Secretary's minutes were approved as read.

Brad Lown reported on the results of the April Bird Count.

Bill Burch distributed flyers from the U.S. Department of the Interior which describe procedures for seeing the Kirtland's Warbler in its Michigan breeding grounds.

Program: Bob Brock on fall Warbler identification. Using a beautiful set of hand-drawn color overhead transparencies, Bob compared and contrasted the "easy" full-plumaged male forms with the "confusing" immature plumages. The special diagnostic features of each species were highlighted.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

NOTES

Welcome New Members!

The following is a list of new B.O.S. members.

New Associate Members:

Drew Campbell 383 Niagara Street Welland, Ontario Canada L3C 1L1	Assoc. 5/81 (416) 732-6048
Marc Chelemer 53 Fourteenth Street Buffalo, New York 14213	Assoc. 11/81 885-0474
William D'Anna 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304	Assoc. 4/82 1-731-4348
Mrs. Phyllis Hanson 17 Marengo Street Hamburg, N.Y. 14075	Assoc. 12/81 649-5045
Morgan Jones 57 Bacon Street Lockport, N.Y. 14094	Assoc. 4/82 1-433-5687
Barbara Lindeman 74 E. Hazeltine Ave. Kenmore, N.Y. 14217	Assoc. 1/82 877-0435
David Mark 4280 Chestnut Ridge Rd. Building B-1 Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150	Assoc. 11/81 691-7891
Betsy Potter 2257 Cayuga Drive Extension Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304	Assoc. 4/82 1-731-4348

Also, there are the following changes in the B.O.S. roster.

New addresses:

Karen Geiger 199-A Two Rod Road Marilla, N.Y. 14102	937-6799
Leonard P. Pepkowitz 929 River Road Youngstown, NY 14174	

Volume 48, No. 6 "Notes" cont.

New addresses: cont.

Mrs. Leonard P. Pepkowitz (Selma M.)
929 River Road
Youngstown, NY 14174

Frances M. Rew
50 Kenton Place
Hamburg, NY 14075

649-4192

To be added to roster:

John Forness
3086 Haskill Road
Cuba, N.Y. 14727

Assoc. 2/75
Active 2/76
1-372-9468

Mrs. John Forness (Mary)
3086 Haskill Road
Cuba, N.Y. 14727

Assoc. 2/75
Active 2/76
1-372-9468

Submitted by:

Audrey Horbett
Membership Chairperson

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of meeting topics and speakers through December 1982:

- October 13th: Report by Walt Klabunde on the most recent conference of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs. Report by David Cooper on interactions between birds and aircraft.
- October 27th: Bob Andrie will report on the third year of progress with the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- November 10th: Marie Wendling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.

For further information contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (855-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the remainder of 1982.

- October 10th: October Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Townsend (691-7775).
- October 24th: Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Transitown Plaza in front of Citibank, or at 10:15 a.m. at the Cayuga Pool. Leader: Dick Christensen (632-7762).
- November 14th: Dunkirk Harbor and Chautauqua Lake. Leader: Fran Rew (649-4192). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland in Hamburg or 8:30 a.m. at the pier, Dunkirk Harbor.
- November 21st: Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Harriet and Walter Klabunde (754-4424) B.O.S., and Gordon Meade (248-2032) G.O.S. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.
- December 19th: Christmas Bird Count.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: Ms. Peggy Daniels
18 Concord Drive
Buffalo, NY 14215

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: In addition to the contributors referenced above, assistance in the production of this issue of the Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake, Jean Babcock.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

NOV 1 1982

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 48

JULY 1982

NUMBER 7

THE MONTH

June was wet, cloudy and unseasonably cool with 21 days of below average temperatures and the thermometer reaching 80°(F) only twice in the entire month! A huge cell of low pressure over Eastern Canada persisted most of the month causing a moist, cool flow of air which made many of us despair of summer ever arriving. This phenomenon was attributed to the vagaries of the high-velocity, high-altitude river of air known to meteorologists as the jetstream which stayed well to the South of its normal path across Eastern Canada in June allowing cool arctic air masses to influence our weather. The average temperature for the month was 62.2°(F), 3.5° below the norm, while rainfall measured 3.14 inches, 0.91 inches above normal. Only 46% of possible sunshine for the period was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the unseasonable weather, there seemed to be no dearth of birds - or observers - in the area this month. The only truly unusual record came from the south shore of Lake Erie near Dunkirk where Nancy Bowser was one of seven observers who saw two Laughing Gulls at the mouth of Canadaway Creek. The birds were in the company of a large group of Ring-billed Gulls on a sandy spit and they were immediately distinguishable from the latter species by their black hoods, deep red bills, dark gray mantle and completely black wing tips. Both birds called with the characteristic 'laugh' from which the species derives its name. There was also an unverified report of two adult Sandhill Cranes feeding in an old corn field in the Town of Carrollton in Cattaraugus County on June 15th.

Other interesting records for the month include an immature Double-crested Cormorant perched on a dead stump just above water level at Alma Pond in the Town of Alma in Allegany County. This species is becoming more common on the waterways of the Niagara Frontier region. Golden-crowned Kinglets were reported from the Keeney Swamp area of the Town of Birdsall in Allegany County as well as from previously documented sites in state reforestation areas in the Towns of Alfred and West Almond. On June 12th, an Acadian Flycatcher was reported from the Hampton Brook woods in the Town of Hamburg and on June 16th, two singing males of this species

were reported on territory on the Sawmill Run Road in the Town of South Valley in Cattaraugus County. Elizabeth Brooks reports evidence of viable populations of Yellow-rumped Warblers in evergreen plantations at previously documented locations at Foster Lake, on Lake Road and on McAndrew Road, all in the Town of Alfred and in the State Reforestation Area on the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward. In addition, two singing males of this species were found in a Norway Spruce grove on the Vandermark Road, a site not previously documented. Mrs. Brooks describes the Prairie Warbler population in Allegany County as 'mushrooming'. She verified the presence of singing males of this species at ten locations in that County including six previously unknown sites in the Town of Alfred, one in the Town of Ward and two in the Town of Andover. Vivian Pitzrick reported yet another location for the Yellow-rumped Warbler in a conifer plantation on Peacock Hill Road in the Town of Angelica where she observed a male bird and found an empty nest in a Norway Spruce on June 15th. One week later, Mrs. Pitzrick found a nest containing three young Yellow-rumped Warblers in a hawthorne (Crataegus sp.) bush. The female bird was on the nest when it was discovered.

On June 12th, a pair of White-eyed Vireos were seen on territory, approximately five miles south of Steamburg near the Allegheny Reservoir in Cattaraugus County. A pair of Orchard Orioles were observed among the trees in a cemetery on U.S. Route #20 in the Village of Westfield in Chautauqua County by Jeanne Flory and Joanne Goetz on June 27th. Both the male and the female were observed carrying food to an ornamental spruce tree, presumably to feed young birds. On the 29th, Terence Mosher saw one of these birds and reported that a second pair was seen by Bob Sundell in a cemetery at Frewsburg in Chautauqua County.

Robert Andriele advises that field observers reported an unusual number of Pine Siskins in Western New York during the course of their labors on behalf of the New York State Bird Atlas project but no evidence of nesting. On June 2nd, Terence Mosher reported a Pine Siskin at his feeder on Harmon Hill Road in the Town of Fredonia. On June 10th, two siskins were also seen at a feeder in the Town of Colden in Erie County. In Allegany County, Lou and Doris Burton reported 'one or two' Pine Siskins as regular visitors to their feeder in Belmont until June 19th. Their preference was for thistle seeds. Lorry Chapman of Alfred reported three siskins visiting her thistle feeder on June 25th with that number increasing to seven the following day.

On June 13th, Morgan Jones identified a Clay-colored Sparrow at the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport on Van Buren Road in Dunkirk. The bird, which in the words of one observer proved 'maddeningly furtive', was not seen well enough to identify by morphological characters until June 21st when Terence Mosher had a good look at it in a telescope. It was subsequently seen by many observers in an old field next to the airport. On June 14th, Elizabeth Brooks detected the unmistakable 'buzz buzz buzz' song of a Clay-colored Sparrow while walking through a hillside plantation of Douglas Fir on the McAndrew Road in the Town of Alfred. She located the songster, observing the dark and buff striped crown and light cheek patch and, to her surprise, a second male in full song was found in a Douglas Fir not 20 yards away from the first bird! On June 30th, Mrs. Brooks heard a male Clay-colored Sparrow at that site but she was unable to find a nest or any evidence of a breeding pair of birds.

Finally, Vivian Pitzrick heard a White-throated Sparrow on June 23rd singing in a field near Pikesville during the course of a breeding bird survey in Allegany County. On June 17th, she heard 'the same plaintive call' in a conifer plantation on Reddy Road in the Town of Amity, the location of a summer pair of White-throats in 1981.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest. Cormorant	June	<u>12</u>	1 Town of Alma	Brooks
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	<u>10</u>	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-30	1-2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	<u>10</u>	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>26</u>	1 Town of Eden	Thills
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	<u>2</u>	2 Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Mosher
*Laughing Gull	"	<u>2</u>	2 Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Bowser, Mosher et al
Acadian Flycatcher	"	<u>12</u>	1 Hamburg	Andrle, Leonards
Cliff Swallow	"	20, <u>27</u>	4, 1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	<u>27</u>	2 Wellsville	Pitzrick
Tufted Titmouse	"	<u>21</u>	1 Town of Wales	Hein
Hermit Thrush	"	<u>12</u>	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	51 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(14 nesting pairs and 37 fledgings)		
	"	1-30	1-10 Alfred	Brooks
	"	2, <u>18</u>	1, 2 Town of Friendship	Burtons
	"	9, <u>11</u>	1, 2 Town of Wales	Hein
	"	<u>10</u>	1 North Collins	O'Dell
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	<u>1</u>	6 Keeney Swamp	Brooks
	"	<u>10</u>	1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>25</u>	2 West Almond	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	8- <u>25</u>	1-20 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	8- <u>25</u>	3-4 Town of Ward	Brooks
	"	<u>8, 15, 22</u>	2 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>10, 17</u>	1, 5 Angelica	
		(2 adults, 3 young in nest)		

Prairie Warbler	June	<u>8-30</u>	1-4 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>8-30</u>	1 Town of Ward	Brooks
	"	<u>30</u>	4 Town of Andover	Brooks
	"	<u>10,17</u>	1,1 Angelica	Pitzrick
	"	<u>30</u>	4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(3 adults, 1 young) (five other records of Prairie Warbler from previously documented areas also recorded)		
<u>Orchard Oriole</u>	"	27	2 Town of Westfield	Flory, Goetz
	"	29	1 Town of Westfield	Mosher
House Finch	"	1-30	10-30 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-30	1-5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	21	1 Town of Wales	Hein
Pine Siskin	"	1	1 Town of Amity (f)	Pitzrick
	"	<u>1-16</u>	2 Town of Amity (f)	Pitzrick
	"	<u>1-19</u>	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	<u>2</u>	1 Fredonia (f)	Mosher
	"	<u>25-30</u>	3,7 Alfred	Chapman, Brooks
Henslow's Sparrow	"	8,9	1,1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	13,21	1,1 Chestnut Ridge Park	O'Dell
Vesper Sparrow	"	27	1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
<u>Clay-colored Sparrow</u>	"	14,30	2,1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	21	1 Dunkirk	Mosher
White-thr. Sparrow	"	<u>17</u>	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	<u>21,25,30</u>	1,1,1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>24</u>	1 Town of Alma	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year	237
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this issue	<u>1</u>
Total for year.	238

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING OF June 9, 1982

The 915th meeting of the Society was a picnic at the Old Stone Fort in Fort Erie, Ontario. The brief business portion of the meeting included a report by Tom Harper on the May Count, and a suggestion by Harriette Klabunde that the Society become more active in the area of animal rights, specifically with regard to the endangered Endangered Species Act. Post-dinner lakeshore birding yielded some migrating (not Wandering) shorebirds.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Karen E. Renning

NESTING RECORDS -- 1981

(Part 1 of 3)

Vivian Mills Pitzrick

(Editors Note: Accompanying this submittal was a tabulation of Nest Totals representing findings made by Mrs. Pitzrick as part of a friendly competition with another seemingly indefatigable nest-finder, Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks. Therein, not only the total number of nests found (477) is considered important, but also a "point value" assignment is incorporated for each species. Point values range from only 1 point for overly conspicuous and common birds such as the House Wren, House Sparrow and Common Grackle, through to 20 and 40 points for such elusive and/or rare birds as the Brown Creeper and Prairie Warbler (Vivian's total: 1,584 points)!! The publication of these nesting records should prove to be a valuable aid in sharpening our habitat-based atlasing techniques. They will be presented in serial form.)

Unless otherwise specified, nests were mostly at Lat. 42° 13', Long. 77° 59' and 5 miles North of Scio, N.Y., Allegany County. (Documented in connection with Nest-Record Card Program, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850.) (F = first for V.M.P.; nc = not counting in Brooks-Pitzrick Competition; C = Colony.)

Great Blue Heron: 2 mi. E. of Cuba, Lat. 42° 12', Long. 78° 12', El. 2160 ft., deciduous woods, oak-beech, c. 45 ft. up in oaks. April 6 - 5 birds on nests. Total Ad. 11. Total nests, observed from highway, 15. May 11 - Can see 12 nests, trees leafing out; 6 adults on nests. Outcome unknown because not revisited.

Wood Duck: El. 1635 ft. in mixed woods of beech and hemlock, in dead elm stub at edge of fresh water pond, 5.5 ft. up. April 15 - ♀ at hole investigating. April 22 - 2 pair adults near (three other next boxes on posts in water of pond). May 1, 13, 20 and June 9 - No activity.

Hooded Merganser: In same area as Wood Duck above, in Wood Duck nest box on post in fresh water pond, 4 ft. up. April 15 - ♀ entered box to stay about ten minutes. She then joined male on log below and both preened. April 22, May 1, 13, 20 and June 9 - No activity.

Hooded Merganser: 4 mi. E. of Belmont, Lat. 42° 14', Long. 77° 59', El. 1760 ft., at fresh pond, alder and Scotch Pine, on post in water, 4 ft. up. April 11 - ♀ left box. Male near box. May 4, 17, 23 and June 6 - No activity. June 12 - ♀ feeding below box, sat on box and preened; finally went into box, 8:45 a.m., to stay. June 19, 25 - No activity. July 21 - 2 young in area near box.

Cooper's Hawk: El. 1775 ft., in mixed woods, oak-hemlock, in White Oak 55 ft. up in nest of two years ago, repaired. April 18 - Fresh conifer bough on n. No adults. April 22 - Male adult near. April 26 - More fresh conifer boughs on n. Adult "kek-kek-kek"ing near. April 29 - I sheathed n. tree with aluminum sheeting. May 9 - Adult on.

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- Cooper's Hawk: May 17, 24 - Adult "kek-kek"ing near. May 31 - Empty eggshell below n. No activity. June 7 - Some movement in n. and spotting below. Adult near. June 14 - 1 young, possibly a second in n. June 20, 26 - 1 young large but downy in n. July 2 - 2 young, one large well-feathered; 2nd feathered but much smaller. July 12 - 2 young near nest. Nest empty, intact.
(cont'd)
- Red-tailed Hawk: El. 1981, in mixed woods, oak-pine-hemlock, in White Oak, 50 ft. up (Hood Hill). Feb. 24 - Fresh hemlock boughs on n. March 31 - Adult on, more conifer boughs. March 28 - Adult in n., 2nd Adult on n. edge. April 15 - Adult on n. April 29 - 2 young, buffy and good sized already. Adult near. May 9 - 2 young, 2 Adult overhead, agitated. More conifer boughs on n. May 18 - 2 young with well-developed wing feathers. Adult overhead. Young give high thin scream on one tone. May 26 - Both young on n. edge. One lifted wings and flapped them several times. No Adults in evidence. Young very well feathered. June 3 - 2 young still on n. June 10 - Adult with 2 young in area near n.
- Red-tailed Hawk: Same site as used in '73 and '74 -- nest completely rebuilt. (Saunders Pond West) El. 1960 ft., in mixed woods, oak-beech-hickory-hemlock, in White Oak 35 ft. up. April 3, 8, 11 - Adults rebuilding n. May 9 - Down on n. May 26 - Can see 1 unsteady young in n. Dogwood in bloom. June 3 - 2 young visible in n. July 2 - 2 well-feathered young in n. -- much spotting below. July 21 - At least 1 young in area near n.
- Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ} 13'$, Long $77^{\circ} 58'$, El. 2260 ft. (Cooley Hill), in mixed woods, oak-hemlock, in Red Oak 50 ft up. May 8 - Adult on, left n. perched nearby screaming. May 17, 24 - No activity but a bit of down on n. edge. No evidence on tree trunk of claw marks. June 7 - Egg shells in large pieces below n. -- estimated 2 eggs. No spotting below n. June 14 - No spotting below n. July 9 - Slight spotting below n. N. apparently empty, intact.
- Broad-winged Hawk: El. 1800 ft. (East Hill, same n. as last year.) Mixed woods, oak-hemlock, in White Oak 30 ft. up. May 6, 14, 21 - Adult on, sitting very tight. Approached to c. 50 ft. of n. June 4 - Adult on. Second adult near but quiet. June 11 - Spotting below n. Adult on. July 9 - Much spotting below n. Adult near. A hawk left n., possibly a youngster.
- Turkey: (Reddy Rd., upper) 4 mi. E. of Belmont, Lat. $42^{\circ} 14'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 59'$, El. 1925 ft., in abandoned field, raspberry-grass, on ground in raspberry clump. June 12 - Adult on -- 14 eggs. June 19 - 2 freshly broken eggshells, yolks still wet. No other eggs or shells. Can it be the hen moved other eggs and missed these?? -- or did other eggs hatch and these two were infertile and left to be found by predator????

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- Killdeer: El. 1700 ft. (Geffers Grove) in abandoned field, grass, dogwood; on ground on gravel near road. May 6, 14, 19, 23, 28 - 4 eggs, adult on. May 29 - N. E.I. adults with 4 young near.
- Killdeer: Edge of Wellsville Village, Lat. $42^{\circ} 07'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 57'$, at edge of parking lot at edge of church lawn on ground, grass-sycamore tree. May 24 - 2 e. adult on. May 28, June 7, 17 - 4 eggs. (Custodian when mowing lawn placed stakes each side of nest with red plastic streamers on the tops. The adult sat tight with people milling around, cars going by and children shouting and running near.) July 5 - Adults with 4 young near n.
- Rock Dove: In Scio Village, Lat. $42^{\circ} 11'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 59'$, El. 1450 ft., in fallow field, grass-goldenrod, under porch roof (old milk plant) on ledge under eaves, 8.3 ft. up. May 3 - Building--3 nests, no eggs. May 24 - Broken eggs below one empty n.; no e. 2nd n.; 2 e. adult on 3rd n. June 11 - Broken eggs below n. N. empty.
- Rock Dove: 3.5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ} 12'$, Long. $78^{\circ} 01'$, El. 1455 ft. (Wesche's silo), in fallow field, grass, on top of ledge on inside silo wall, 10.5 ft. up. May 8, 13 - 2 e. adult on. May 25 - 2 young, adult on. June 2 - 2 young in n. June 10 - 1 young out of empty, intact n. Adults near.
- Black-billed Cuckoo: 4.5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ} 13'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 59'$, El. 1655 ft. (Bentley's Bench), in abandoned field, Gray-barked Dogwood-grass, in apple tree, 3 ft. up, in crotch. June 2 - 2 e. adult on. June 10 - N. empty, damaged.
- Great Horned Owl: 4 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ} 13'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 59'$, El. 1680 ft. in mixed woods, White Oak-White Pine-Hemlock-Beech, in Red Oak, 50 ft. up. March 7 - Adult on, low in n.--hardly visible but for "horns". Also seen by Matt Hotchkiss. March 13, April 7 - Adult on, fresh pine boughs on n., pellets under nearby white pine. 2nd adult near the 7th. April 24 - 2 young, large, buffy; lots of whitewash below n. April 30 - 2 young still in n. 2 adult near. Photographed n. and young in n. May 8 - 2 young in pines near nest. Adult near. Nest empty, intact.
- Belted Kingfisher: 1 mi. N.W. of Scio, Lat. $42^{\circ} 11'$, Long. $77^{\circ} 59'$, El. 1440 ft. in mixed woods, Hemlock-Maple, in hole in face of gravel pit cliff, 9.5 ft. up. May 3 - Adult at hole. 2nd adult near. May 24 - No activity. June 11 - No activity. Hole looks used. June 21 - N. apparently E.I.
- Common Flicker: Three nests (Saunders Pond, grove below, Geffers Grove, Inlet) All in dead elm snags c. 25 ft. up. One n. taken over by Starlings. One n. produced at least 2 young. One n. produced at least 1 young.

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

E. Kingbird: Four nests (Reddy Road, Saunders Pond West, Bentley's Bench, Saunders Pond South and West). Two n. too high to see into. One empty, intact, produced 2 young, the other also E.I. produced 3 young, July 15 and 17, respectively. One n. had 4 e. June 10 and produced 4 young July 17. One n. had 3 e. June 5, 13 and 18 and produced 3 young July 10.

Great Crested Flycatcher: (Buttons box, same as last year) El. 1680 ft. in deciduous woods, poplar-maple-oak, in bluebird box on Red Oak tree 8 ft. up. May 29 - 4 e. June 3 - As this box was predated last year, I put sheathing around tree this year. June 8 - Only 2 eggs. Eggs warm, adult near, agitated. June 16 - Adults near agitated. June 20 - No activity. N. empty -- failure due to predation.

E. Phoebe: (Buttons) One pair, four nestings one lost to predation (Grackles?), one lost to possible cowbird activity (eggs on ground below), two successful, produced total 7 young. This was the same pair of Phoebes.

E. Phoebe: 13 pairs, one nesting 3 times, eight nesting twice, and four pairs, once; 23 more nestings (McMullen, 2; Saunders, 2; Back Rd., 2; Cooley, 2; Scio Park, 2; Adams, 2; Boandga Br., 2; Flints br., 3; Dry Brook Cliff, 2; Dry Brook, pressure plant, 1; Knights Cr. br., 1; Boandga Bldg., 1; White Rd., 1) 16 successful, produced at least 45 young. Two lost to predation (Grackles?), one lost to cowbirds, and three lost to a highway crew who destroyed the nests when they painted the bridge. One n. was lost possibly to cowbirds but was not rechecked after the second visit. (Later nests freer of cowbird parasitism.)

Alder Flycatcher: El. 1630 ft. in abandoned field, dogwood-goldenrod. In Gray-barked Dogwood, 2.5 ft. up. July 18 - 1 young, wings just breaking sheaths. In 10-ft. dogwoods, 5 ft. from edge. July 24 - N. empty, intact, adult near agitated.

Alder Flycatcher: El. 1620 ft. in abandoned field, dogwood-goldenrod. In Gray-barked Dogwood, 2 ft. up -- well hidden. July 18, 20 and 24 - 3 eggs. July 29, Aug. 5 - 3 young. Aug. 14 - N. empty, intact.

Least Flycatcher: (2 nc) Six nestings (one pair nesting three times). Four successful, two lost to predation. 5 were in soft maple, one was in blue beech -- from 7 to 60 ft. up.

E. Wood Pewee: (F) El. 1660 ft., in deciduous woods, maple-ash, in soft maple on Y near end of horizontal branch 35 ft. up. July 8 - 2 young, adult feeding young in n. Young look grizzly like grey of n. July 14 - N. empty, intact (opposite Adams'.)

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- Tree Swallow: (2 nc) 38 nestings, all in Bluebird-nest boxes. 32 successful, produced at least 160 young. Two infertile eggs, one egg pushed out of the nest and one dead young were found in the nests. 50% were badly infested with blow fly larvae but the young fledged successfully in spite of this. One n. failed when the box trapped several adults, three adults died in box and three were released by owner. (No more were trapped after wall below hole was roughened.) One n. lost to coons; one to House Sparrows; one to House Wrens; one to youngsters who pulled out nest; and 6 young died in one box when workmen on the power line were near the box too long and kept adults away too long.
- Barn Swallow: 9 pairs, 13 nestings. 12 successful produced at least 30 young. One young died when it fell from nest prematurely. One nest was torn away from site. (Four pairs nested twice.)
- Cliff Swallow: 2 mi. S. of Wellsville (Burdick's), Lat. 42° 06', Long. 77° 56', El. 1525 f. Grassey field, on flashing under eaves at top of barn wall, 14 ft. up. July 4 - One n. active. Freshly opened egg shell on ground below. No adult. Shell was opened like a chick does it. No further visits.
- Purple Martin: (C) All at edge of Scio Village, 3 Colonies. Observed five times June 7 thru Aug. 2. Total 10 nests in which young were being fed. No fledglings sighted as there was no activity at last visit Aug. 2.

Amity Lake
Belmont, NY 14813
Allegany County

BIRDS AND POETS

A new Prothonotary feature -- a sampling of old and new poems relating to our common interest. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions and poetry.

Alexander Wilson (1766-1813), the "Father of American Ornithology" was a minor literary figure as well as a major scientific one. His life's work, American Ornithology, was originally published in a large, beautiful, hand-colored very limited edition in 1808 through 1814. It was subsequently re-issued in smaller, more affordable versions and was the first manual of American birds. It was in practical use for many years. Wilson included several poems in his work which highlight his belief that birds deserve human respect and admiration.

Birds and Poets cont.

HUMMING BIRD

When the morning dawns, and the blest sun again
Lifts his red glories from the eastern main,
Then through our woodbines, wet with glittering dews,
The flower-fed Humming Bird his round pursues;
Sips, with inserted tube, the honey'd blooms,
And chirps his gratitude as round he roams;
While richest roses, though in crimson drest,
Shrink from the splendor of his gorgeous breast.
What heavenly tints in mingling radiance fly!
Each rapid movement gives a different dye;
Like scales of burnish'd gold they dazzling show,
Now sink to shade - now like a furnace glow.

NOTES

Allegany Park Management Plan

The following is a Press Release from the Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter (contact person: Alexandra Cukan, Buffalo Rep.):

Allegany State Park is the third largest state park in the country and it attracts 1.4 million visitors annually. In May, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation released their "Recreation Forest Resource Management Plan" which will effectively destroy the park's wild character, natural scenic beauty, and climax forest community. If implemented, the plan proposes to:

- convert 36,931 acres (61%) of the park to a commercial logging zone. They plan to use clear cutting and other methods on 1300 acres per year. This amounts to 6 million board feet and 360,000 dollars annually. The money from the sale of the timber would go to the state's general fund.
- actively assist and encourage the construction of oil/gas drilling on park land. They admit that this will lead to hazardous waste pits, oil spills, and water contamination on parkland.
- construct an extensive network of 22 miles of new roads throughout the forest.
- deliberately eliminate 60% of the deer, beaver, and raccoon in the park.

This is the first time in New York's history that a state park has adopted commercial logging and mineral exploitation as its primary goal and made public recreation a secondary consideration. The plan justifies the cutting of

Allegheny Park Management Plan cont.

the park's timber to enhance the primary recreational mission of the park. We cannot see how clear cutting, fields of stumps, piles of logging debris, muddy logging roads, and groaning chain saws and truck noise will enhance recreational use.

The park claims that they have no control over oil and gas drilling on parklands where the state does not own the mineral rights. But state statutes specifically say that the park commission can take possession over mineral rights through eminent domain. Even the implication that this power would be used would economically preclude mineral exploitation. Even though the park has the power to prevent mineral extraction, they plan to actively assist and encourage it by designing logging roads and clearcuts to provide access and cleared sites for future oil and gas operations. The plan sets no controls on the extent of these operations. The plan does not mention how encouraging mineral extraction will contribute to the primary recreational mission of the park.

The plan also claims it wants to manage the park's wildlife for the public by creating a habitat species that prefer open unforested land and young undisturbed forest. However, the park represents the primary refuge for the entire region for at least 50 kinds of wildlife that depend on undisturbed, mature, and climax forest. The plan proposes to eliminate by hunting 60% of the deer population because the deer are supposedly eating too much of the vegetation. However, the plan avoids mentioning that logging a forest has long been known as the single best method to expand deer populations because the deer have a new food source from the young trees and brush.

One of the plan's justifications is that logging will help the local economy, even though the park will only be a 2% increase to the 1.7 million acres of commercial timber and wildlife management lands within 75 miles of the park. Further, current demand for wood products and the current economic climate would preclude any measurable effect. The park admits that many of the park's users will turn away from the park once they see and hear of the logging and drilling operations. When park visitors were polled, 58% stated that the park's wild character and scenic beauty were the main reasons for their attending.

The Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation claims that this plan has been in progress for about the last ten years. The public information meeting that was held in May of this year was the first time the public had any exposure to this plan. The meetings had virtually no public notice and it was only after the Sierra Club learned of the plan's proposals and after the Sierra Club notified other environmental groups and citizens that the public has learned about the plan.

On August 12, Commissioner Lehman of the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation announced that because of the large amount of letters received from individuals and environmental groups a public hearing will be held in Buffalo in mid-September to discuss the plan and the comments received.

Allegany Park Management Plan cont.

The Sierra Club vigorously opposes this plan and urges a continuation of current park management that has helped make Allegany State Park such an outstanding state park.

Letters should be sent to:

Orin Lehman, Commissioner of
Parks and Recreation
Agency Building 1
Federal Plaza
Albany, New York 12238

Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter
78 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14201

NEW BIRDING ORGANIZATION FORMING

Plans are underway to establish an organization of Ontario Birders. The organization, which will be known as the Ontario Field Ornithologists (OFO), will be open to all people interested in birding, whether as a pastime, a hobby, a profession or a passion! The first meeting of OFO will take place on the weekend of 13/14 November, 1982 in Burlington, Ontario.

After a morning of indoor discussion and a featured speaker, we will spend Saturday afternoon and Sunday birding in the Burlington, Hamilton, Lake Ontario, Niagara River area. The combination of late autumn migrants, gulls on the Niagara River, dozens of pairs of eyes and good camaraderie should make for exciting birding. An evening social is planned for Saturday.

Future tentative plans for OFO include annual field meetings (Pelee, Kingston, Peterborough, Ottawa, Marathon, Moosonee, etc.) and a journal or magazine for Ontario bird records, summaries and investigations. At this formative stage, OFO needs your support, participation and enthusiasm. Plan to attend!!

<u>SATURDAY</u>	1st ANNUAL ONTARIO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' MEETING
<u>9:00 A.M.-</u>	AUDITORIUM - ALDERSHOT HIGH SCHOOL
<u>12:00 Noon</u>	50 Fairwood Pl. W., Burlington, Ontario
	(416) 637-2384

Tentative Agenda

- I. The Ontario Field Ornithologists, what form should it take?
-- AN OPEN DISCUSSION --
- II. Introduction of the Ontario Rare Birds Committee and a discussion of their role in OFO.
-- Coffee Break --

Volume 48, No. 7 "Notes" cont.

New Birding Organization Forming cont.

III. Featured Speaker -- to be announced.

Afternoon - Birding trips in the Burlington/Hamilton area.

Evening - Evening social - cash bar - location to be announced.

SUNDAY - Morning departure for gull watching along the Niagara River.

If you have any questions or would like to assist in the organization of OFO, please contact:

Bill Crins
Apt. 412
1180 Forestwood Dr.
Mississauga, Ontario
L5C 1H8
(416) 276-7093

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

The following is a brief summary of upcoming meeting topics and speakers.

November 10th:	Marie Wnedling will present a review of some of the most recent books relating to ornithology.
December 8th:	Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.
January 12th:	Dr. Charles Smith (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), <u>Illusions of Bird Feeding</u> .

For further information contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (855-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the remainder of 1982.

November 14th:	Dunkirk Harbor and Chautauqua Lake. Leader: Fran Rew (649-4192). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland in Hamburg or 8:30 a.m. at the pier, Dunkirk Harbor.
November 21st:	Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Harriet and Walter Klabunde (754-4424) B.O.S., and Gordon Meade (248-2032) G.O.S. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.

Volume 48, No. 7 "Program - Field Trips" cont.

December 19th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Bogacki
(674-5781).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker,
Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the
following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore,
New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of the
Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake, Jean Babcock.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANI
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 1485
NOV 29 1982

VOLUME 48

AUGUST 1982

NUMBER 8

THE MONTH

July was sunny and warm confounding the gloomy prognostications of a year without summer. The onset of very warm weather followed a cloudy and cool July 4th with a temperature registering 84°(F) on the 5th and reaching or passing the 80° mark on all but three days until the end of the period. The high temperature for the month (and for the year) was 93°(F) recorded on July 16th. Rainfall for the month measured only 1.50 inches, 1.43 inches below normal. The average temperature for the month was 71.8°(F), 1.7° above the norm. 69% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The most interesting aspect of the month to the bird-watcher was the number of reports of very early migrants in our study area. On July 5th, 9 Caspian Terns, 5 Greater Black-backed Gulls and 7 Bonaparte's Gulls were counted among the teeming resident Ring-billed and Herring Gulls on Mohawk Island in Lake Erie near Rock Point Provincial Park. In the park itself, on the shoreline there were 28 Least Sandpipers, 5 Lesser Yellowlegs, a Semipalmated Sandpiper and 46 Bonaparte's Gulls; most of these birds are assumed to be post-breeding migrants arriving as much as five days earlier than average. Also present on Mohawk Island on July 5th were 6 Double-crested Cormorants and 8 Red-breasted Mergansers. The breeding status of both of these species in our study area is uncertain. An exceptionally early record of probable migrating passerines was received on July 29th when four Yellow Warblers were seen in the trees on Ashland Avenue in Buffalo, far from any known breeding population in the area.

The cannery ponds at St. David's, Ontario were again the scene of the heaviest concentrations of migrating shorebirds in July but no rare or unusual species were reported from the flocks there assembled. For the first time since 1977, there was no report of a phalarope among the July shorebird migrants at any location in our study area. Olga Rosche and her party were fortunate to see two Whimbrels among the shorebirds at 'Jaeger Rocks' on the Lake Erie shore just east of Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie on July 29th.

There were many reports of interest in July. On July 1st, while conducting a breeding bird census in an evergreen plantation on the Vandermark Road in the Town of Ward in Allegany County, Elizabeth Brooks heard "the deep hoarse croaking" of a raven. Looking up, she saw two large, black crow-like birds with the diagnostic wedge-shape tail of the Common Raven, yet more evidence of this rare corvid's presence as a resident species in southwestern New York State. For the second consecutive year, a Swainson's Thrush made its appearance at Harold Axtell's sanctuary on the Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie on July 29th. Paul Hess reported a Common Goldeneye, an uncommon summer visitor, in Buffalo Harbor on July 7th. On the 14th, John Morse observed an Osprey, a rare visitor to this area in summer, flying over Mohawk Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge.

Joanne Goetz and Jeanne and William Flory, new correspondents from Chautauqua County, observed a pair of Orchard Orioles in a cemetery in the Town of Westfield in June. They now report three more Orchard Orioles, two adults and a young bird in a grove of spruce trees on the Flory property in Fredonia on July 3rd. They had excellent views of the adult male feeding the fledged young bird. Elizabeth Brooks reported seeing a single Clay-colored Sparrow on both July 6th and July 14th in an evergreen plantation on McAndrew Road in the Town of Alfred, the same location where they were seen in June. Also, between July 2nd and 16th, Mrs. Brooks observed one to two adult White-throated Sparrows feeding three young birds out of the nest on the McAndrew Road. On July 13th, on Reddy Road in the Town of Amity, Vivian Pitzrick had the delightful experience of finding the bulky nest of a White-throated Sparrow in the lower boughs of a young spruce tree. The female bird was on the nest when it was discovered but she made a quick exit revealing six eggs, all of which hatched between July 20th and 27th. On July 31st, the nest was empty but Mrs. Pitzrick is confident that the young birds fledged successfully. The nest now reposes in the collection of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	July	24	11 Alfred	Brooks
			(1 adult, 10 young)	
Turkey Vulture	"	4	24 Town of Sherman	Thills

Cooper's Hawk	July	1-31	5 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(1 adult, 4 young)		
Killdeer	"	22	50 St. David's, Ont.	Rosche et al
Ruddy Turnstone	"	29 F	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rosche et al
*Whimbrel	"	29	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rosche et al
Upland Sandpiper	"	16	8 Clarence	Hess
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	16 F	2 Buffalo Harbor	Hess
W.-rump Sandpiper	"	31 F	1 St. David's, Ont.	Axtell, Andrie
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	7 F	1 Buffalo Harbor	Hess
Caspian Tern	"	16	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Common Flicker	"	27-31	3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(young in nest; apparent late date for state)		
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	4	1 Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan
	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
*Common Raven	"	1	2 Town of Ward	Brooks
Swainson's Thrush	"	29 F-31	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	91 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(14 nesting pairs, 63 fledged young)		
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	11	3 Alfred	Brooks
		(previously documented breeding area)		
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-26	1-6 Alfred	Brooks
		(previously documented breeding area)		
	"	1-27,31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(previously documented breeding area)		
	"	15	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(adult on nest, 3 eggs)		
Prairie Warbler	"	1-24	1-6 Alfred	Brooks
		(previously documented breeding area)		
	"	1,10,27	1,1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(previously documented breeding area)		
Orchard Oriole	"	3	2 Town of Pomfret	Goetz et al
House Finch	"	1-31	1-6 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	11	10 Town of Wales	Rosche
Clay-colored Sparrow	"	6,14	1,1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
		(previously documented location)		
White-thr. Sparrow	"	2-16	1-5 Town of Alfred	Brooks
		(1-2 adults feeding 1-3 young; previously documented location)		
	"	13	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(2 adults, 6 eggs)		
	"	20-27	8 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
		(2 adults, 6 young; same location as above)		

Species, sub-species and hybrids previously recorded.	238
Species, sub-species and hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for year.	240

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

1982 March Winter Bird Survey

Compiled by Marg Wright

ONE DOWN - FOUR TO GO!

The 1982 B.O.S. March Winter-Bird Survey, the first year of a five-year study, covered ten of the twenty-eight sections of the B.O.S. study area. Thirty-five observers, including 25 members and 10 friends of B.O.S. reported. The five birds chosen by the Research Committee for the one-month study were the Tufted Titmouse, the Carolina Wren, the Mockingbird, the Cardinal and the House Finch. A form for reporting daily sightings at feeders and other places, was designed by Ed. Fessler and included in the February 1982 issue of the Society's monthly newsletter, The Prothonotary, with a request for participation and a return date for the reports of April 10th.

The map on page 88 shows the B.O.S. study area. Within the surveyed sections is shown: the feeder count (the number with an F after it), the count for birds found in other places (without the F), and the number of observers reporting from that area (in the black square). A sample reading, say for Area 14, shows that the totals from the 5 observers were 50 House Finches seen at feeders, 3 Tufted Titmice seen at feeders, 2 Carolina Wrens seen at feeders, 25 Cardinals seen at feeders and 15 Cardinals found elsewhere (i.e., cemeteries or parks, etc.).

The total reported number of Titmice was 10, Carolina Wrens 6, Mockingbirds 6, Cardinals 225 and House Finches 146. Observers from 10 sections contributed reports, for a combined total of 393 birds.

The weather for January of 1982 had been prolonged periods of bitter cold, with snow squalls and blizzards in the snow belts, ice storms, sleet and more snow. February started with gale force winds which were clocked at 61 mph, but the month on the whole was much warmer than January, with a number of thaws and freezings. March 1st was 31°(F), 36°(F) by the middle of the month, and 30°(F) with fog on the 28th which, with a slight breeze, rose to 50°(F) by 4:00 that afternoon; the next day started at 49°(F) and rose to 64°(F). What all of this mix meant in terms of birding seems to be that the birds were hard to find. Whether this was attributable to injury, absenteeism or leaving, sufficient statistics are lacking to prove an assumed scarcity.

No one area had all 5 birds. All areas had Cardinals. House Finches were in 8 of the 10 areas. Mockingbirds were found in only 1 area, while the Carolina Wren was reported from 2 areas. The Tufted Titmouse was found in 5 areas.

There are still 18 remaining areas to be covered, and we have four more chances to participate in this very helpful survey. Please respond next March, when we will again have enclosed a reporting form for your use.

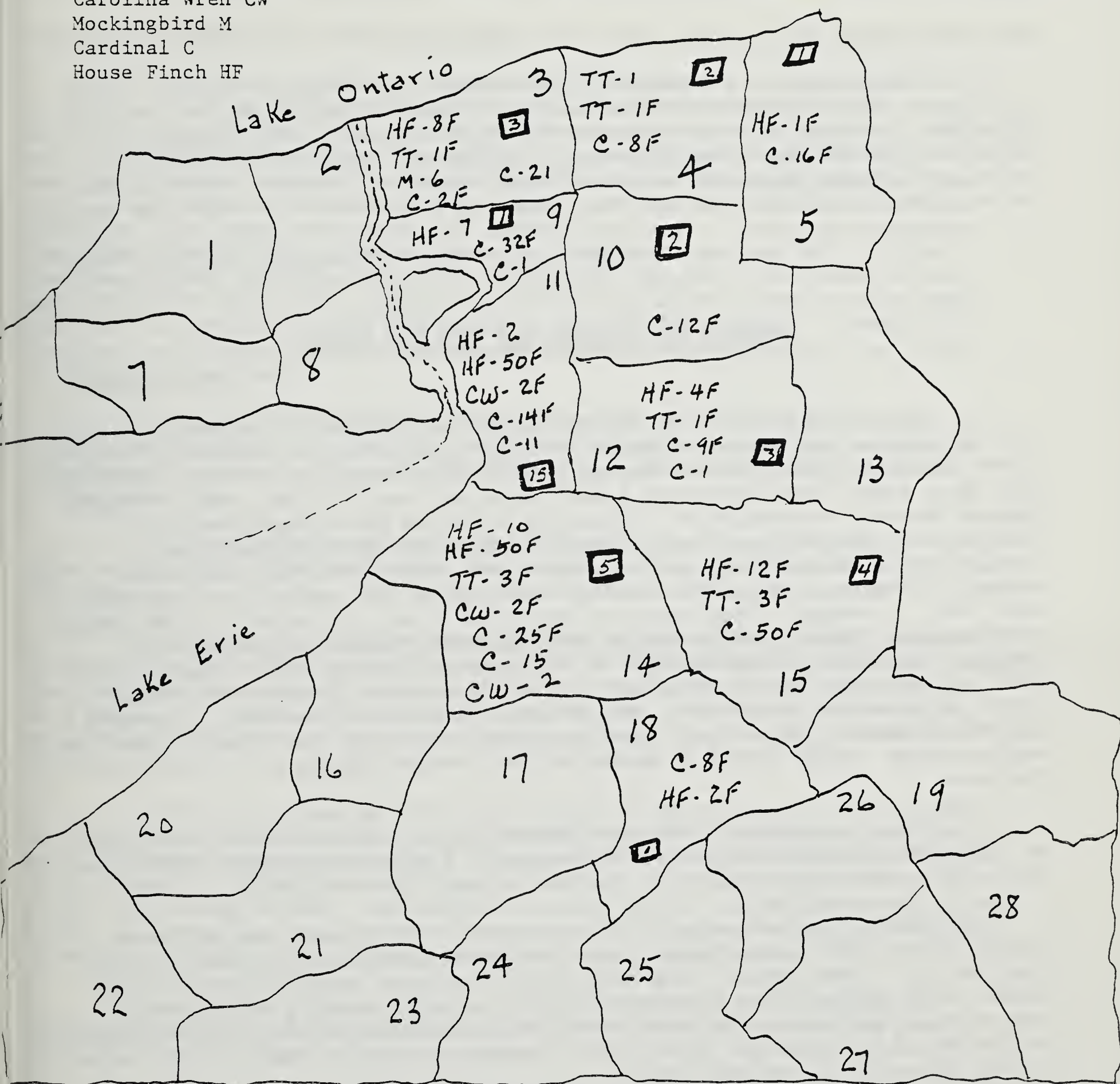
RESULTS: FIRST YEAR OF 5-YEAR STUDY

1982 MARCH WINTER BIRD SURVEY:

Number and letter F are count for feeders.

Tufted Titmouse TT
Carolina Wren CW
Mockingbird M
Cardinal C
House Finch HF

Numbers without F are birds found elsewhere.



B.O.S. STUDY AREA

--10 SECTIONS REPORTED

--35 OBSERVERS, INCL. 25 B.O.S. MEMBERS & 10 FRIENDS

--NUMBER IN SQUARE= # OF OBSERVERS IN SECTION

TOTALS

	Feed- ers	Else- where
TITMOUSE	9F	1
C. WREN	4F	2
MOCKINGBIRD	-	6
CARDINAL	176F	49
HOUSE FINCH	127F	19

1982 March Winter Bird Survey cont.

Many thanks to our members: Ken Brandes, Bob Brock, Mr. & Mrs. Barber, F.C. Carnes, Dick Christensen, Don Clark, Mary Clemesha, Dave Cooper, Ed. Fessler, Mr. & Mrs. Forsberg, Harriette Klabunde, Dr. & Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Millard, John Morse, Burniece Reinhart, Karen Renning, Olga Rosche, Arthur Smith, George D. Smith, Jr., Pauline Schwartz, and Jack Wright; and our friends - Galvin Hansen, Ray Hein, Mr. & Mrs. Hull, Mr. & Mrs. Krog, May Ruhl, Bob Schultz and Joan Secor.

2481 Sheridan Drive, #5, Tonawanda, New York 14150

THROUGH THE CEMETERY AND OVER THE BRIDGE

Esther Becker

When I began the Atlas Project in 1980 in the Town of Holland, the first place I went was the cemetery. Behind the cemetery there is a snowmobile bridge across Cazenovia Creek, farm roads up to the fields, and a lot of brush, weeds and wild apple trees. The first time I went there, on June 9, I had a pair of Blackburnian Warblers carrying food. Farther up I heard a Blue-winged Warbler, I thought. On several other trips I heard the Blue-winged in the same place. Finally one day he was singing in the apple tree, and I could see his yellow breast. I stepped down in this hole to see his head, and his black throat came into view. I thought, "This can't be, that bird is only in books!" After taking another look I rushed back to the car and checked my books. It had to be a Lawrence's Warbler. He was singing on territory all during June; it was now the 28th. I called Marion Bee, who came up from South Wales (4 miles), and after a couple of tries she did see it. But we never found it for Pam Amey. I checked the spot frequently after that, sometimes heard or saw him, but I never found the mate or young. After July 5 he seemed to have stopped singing or to have left the area.

Come the Spring of 1981 we were waiting for him on the May Count, but he didn't show up until May 26, in the evening. I heard him singing in his usual place and located him about dusk. Needless to say, I was delighted.

As the word got around that he was back, the Holland cemetery became a popular place. Dr. Andrie brought his class from the Museum out. Many people from the B.O.S. were there. Some asked me to show them, some followed my directions. Most had good luck in seeing him, without even stepping off the road. Some were not so lucky. One woman from the East Aurora Bird Club crawled across the bridge on her hands and knees, and on that day he didn't show up. She never got up the nerve to come back again.

One evening when I got down there, I found a Michigan car in the cemetery. A man from Ypsilanti had read about the Lawrence's Warbler in Holland in the Toronto paper and came 400 miles to see him. That night by dark we hadn't found him, so he said he would find a motel and try in the morning. When I came down about 9:00 a.m., he had been looking since 5:30 and was ready to give up. Either he didn't hear or didn't recognize the song; I soon heard him. Then he was easy to spot, so his trip was not in vain.

Through the Cemetery and Over the Bridge cont.

In spite of all these comings and goings we were always careful not to go too close, as we wanted for him to raise young, not to find his nest. Finally on the morning of June 27 Dr. Andrle and several other people, including Pam Amey, saw him feeding young down by the bridge. I came later that day and didn't even see him. The next day, up by the nest site, he and a Blue-winged Warbler were practically trying to chase me out of there. The next day I saw him feeding 2 different young ones; the female was nowhere to be seen. Later on another day one young seemed to feed himself, then the Lawrence's came and fed him also. The young looked like Blue-wings but not brightly colored. They moved slower, more vireo-like than their father. He was only around for about 2 weeks after that, but I continued to see Blue-wings in the area into August. I wonder if Warblers are like Shorebirds, wherein the adults go south and leave the young to find their own way.

All winter I worried and wondered how far he went and if he would be back; he was so small. On the May 1982 Bird Count the first place we went was through the cemetery and over the bridge. There was Lawrence waiting for us, a dream come true.

The next week after the Birder's Breakfast at Beaver Meadow, a whole group of us went to the cemetery in the pounding rain. He was still singing and everyone saw him. Quite a few people that missed him last year saw him this year.

My Atlas territory was south of town this year, but I still managed to find time to check the cemetery occasionally. I saw Lawrence singing many times, the last time I saw him fly away with a worm in his mouth, but I never saw him with young or a female. I was out of town the last week in June, then all my children arrived home for July 4th, the very time of the most excitement last year.

It is truly amazing that I saw him for 3 years and he must have been here at least the year before, as they usually come back to the spot they were born. I wonder about his ancestors. I have never seen a Golden-winged Warbler in this area. I think that the Blue-wings have only recently pushed this far north. According to Bent, the Lawrence's occurs in the second generation, 1 out of 9. The first generations are all Brewster's. I have never seen a Brewster's anywhere. So I know I should spend every minute of June in the field.

Now I wait for next spring. The Blue-wing goes to Guatemala, the Golden-wing to Costa Rica. Where does the Lawrence's go? And to hope that he will be back -- that is a lot to expect.

241 Canada Street, Holland, New York 14080

NESTING RECORDS -- 1981

(Part 2 of 3)

Vivian Mills Pitzrick

- Blue Jay: El. 1960 ft. in deciduous woods, beech-maple, on branch of Beech 35 ft. up. June 13 - Adult on -- too high to check into nest. July 2 - nest empty, intact.
- Black-capped Chickadee: (1 nc) Four nestings. One (Youngs' bluebird box) produced 6 young. One (Coconut Shell box) produced 7 young. One (Buttons' bluebird box) was taken over by House Wrens. One (Cooley Hill) -- outcome unknown because not revisited.
- Brown Creeper: (East Hill) El. 1750 ft. in mixed woods, Hemlock-Oak, under loose bark on dead Elm snag, 4 ft. up. April 20, May 6, 14, 21 - Adult went under bark -- building? No eggs yet. June 4 - 1 egg at last. Adult went on nest as I watched. 2nd adult near, singing. June 11 - 1 egg -- egg cold. Adult near, singing. July 9 - nest empty.
- House Wren: 20 pairs, 28 nestings, 4 pairs nesting twice. 55 young, at least, were produced by 18 successful nestings. 10 failed due to human activities (eggs were pulled out of boxes on bluebird trail).
- Gray Catbird: 5 nestings. Nest 1 -- June 13 remains of young eaten in nest (first and only visit). Nest 2 -- three visits. Nest empty, intact, 1 young fledged. Nest 3 and 4 -- lost to predation. Nest 5 -- lost to Grackles.
- Brown Thrasher: 2 nestings, one 3 eggs, one 4 eggs. One nest found empty, damaged (3 ft. up in Crataegus). One nest on ground found empty, with hole up thru it from underneath.
- American Robin: 46 nestings. 28 successful produced about 67 young. 15 were lost to predation. One had an infertile egg left. Three had outcome unknown because not revisited. (Note: Much of the "predation" was from Com. Grackles.)
- E. Bluebird: Summary: 21 nestings; of 11 pairs, one pair nested four times; one pair three times; five pairs nested twice; and four pairs nested once. Lost: three to probable predation (snakes?); two to House Wrens; one to an infertile clutch (4 eggs); and one to small children who pulled out nest and eggs. A total 5 infertile eggs were found. One well-feathered young was found dead in one box after the others fledged: cause of death unknown. 13 successful nestings produced 54 fledglings. (Detail of nestings follows.) (One nest RECORD EARLY for New York State.)

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- E. Bluebird: (SPw, Box 8) First nesting 6 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1920 ft., in abandoned field, Crataegus-grass, in nest box on sheathed pole, 4.5 ft. up. April 3 - building. April 11 - 2 eggs. April 16 - 4 eggs. April 29 - 4 nestlings at least two days old -- RECORD EARLY by at least one day for New York State. May 9 - 4 young in nest. May 18 - Nest empty, intact. 4 young out of nest with 2 adults nearby. A few blowfly larvae in nest material.
- E. Bluebird: Second nesting ibid. Box 11, 5 ft. up, El. 1780 ft. June 5 - Building. 1 immature also at box. I had just removed wasps from this box. June 13 - 4 eggs. June 18 - Nest empty, eggs on ground below, one with hole in side. Lost to House Wrens.
- E. Bluebird: (nc) Third nesting ibid. Box 10, 4 ft. up, El. 1720 ft. June 18 - Nest looks complete. June 22 - Adults near but squirrel has taken over. Box badly scratched. Put coon guard over hole. Lost to racoons.
- E. Bluebird: (nc) Fourth nesting ibid. Box 12, 4.6 ft. up, El. 1795 ft. July 1 - Nest looks complete. Adult near. July 10 - No eggs, no adult. July 21 - No eggs, no adult. If there were eggs, I missed them. Failure cause unknown -- probably snakes robbed the nest.
- E. Bluebird: (nc, Box 15) First nesting 6 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1810 ft., 4.9 ft. up. April 23 - Building. April 28, May 4 - Adults near. No eggs. May 12 - Nest taken over by Tree Swallows (Kinglet Hill).
- E. Bluebird: Second nesting ibid. Box 13, 3.3 ft. up, El. 1810 ft. (Kinglet Hill). (Pair 2) May 12 - Set this box in this new location. May 23 - Adults at box. May 30 - Nest looks complete. No egg. June 6 - 4 eggs, warm. Rotenoned eggs. June 12 - 4 eggs, adult on. June 19 - 4 young, c. 1 day old. July 1 - 4 young well-feathered in nest. July 10 - Adult with at least 3 young near nest.
- E. Bluebird: First Nesting 4 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1565 ft. Box 18 (Hotchkiss), (Pair 3) 4.5 ft. up on metal pipe. April 12 - Building. April 24 - 4 eggs. April 30 and May 6 - 5 eggs, adult on. May 16, 25 - 5 young. June 2 - Nest empty, intact, adults near with young.
- E. Bluebird: Second nesting. Same box as first nesting. June 23, 28 - 3 eggs. (Pair 3) June 29 - Nest empty, grass trampled below. Children were seen there today. Nest pulled out.
- E. Bluebird: Third nesting. Same box as first and second nestings. July 2 - 1 (Pair 3) egg. July 9 - 3 eggs, adult on. July 20, 28 - 3 young in nest. August 4 - Young looking out hole. August 15 - Nest empty, intact.

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- E. Bluebird: First nesting. Box 4 (Saunders Pond, East) 6 mi. N. of Scio, El. 1776 ft., box on sheathed pole 3.5 ft. up. May 2 - 1 egg. May 9 - 5 eggs, I rotenoned box. May 18 - 5 eggs, warm. May 26 - 4 young in nest. June 5 - Nest empty, intact, adults with young near. 1 egg infertile.
- (Pair 4)
- E. Bluebird: (nc) Second nesting. Same box. June 13 - New nest looks complete. (Pair 4) Adult near. June 19,25 - No eggs but adult near. July 10,21 - No eggs, no adult. Failure for causes unknown (possibly snake?).
- E. Bluebird: (H) First nesting. Box 34 (Amity Lake) El. 1675 ft., box on (Pair 5) sheathed pole 5 ft. up. April 18,23 - Adult building, no eggs. April 29 - 3 eggs, Blowfly left box. May 2 - 5 eggs, adult on, I rotenoned box. May 12,18 - 5 eggs, adult on, male near. May 19,31 - Both adults feeding young in nest -- 5 young. June 5 - Nest empty, intact. No fly larvae in nest. Adults near with young.
- E. Bluebird: (H, St. 2) Second nesting. Box near first nesting. El. 1665 ft., (Pair 5) 4 ft. up on metal pipe. June 20,23,30, July 6,10 - 4 eggs, adult on. Checked eggs which were all infertile. (2 adults were in attendance throughout.)
- E. Bluebird: First nesting. Box 17 (Saunders Run, Amity Lake), El. 1725 ft., (Pair 6) on metal pipe 3.8 ft. up. May 12,19 - Building. May 21 - 2 eggs, adult on. Rotenoned nest. May 25, June 4 - 4 eggs, adult on or eggs warm. June 8,16,20 - Adults feeding 4 young in nest. June 25 - Adults with young near.
- E. Bluebird: Second nesting, same box. July 10 - 5 eggs. Rotenoned eggs. (Pair 6) July 19 - 5 young c. 2 days old. July 25 - 5 young with wing sheaths well swollen. July 30 - 5 dead young in box, wings just breaking sheaths. Heads are pecked open. Wounds are fresh. House Wren is near.
- E. Bluebird: First nesting (Bentleys' Bench), Box 31. 4.5 mi. N. of Scio, El. (Pair 7) 1670 ft. on sheathed pole, 5.1 ft. up. May 25 - Building on Tree Swallow nest which was found empty, damaged. June 2 - 5 eggs. Rotenoned eggs. June 10 - 5 eggs, adult on. June 23 - 5 young, wings breaking sheaths. June 30 - Nest empty, intact. Adult near with young.
- E. Bluebird: Second nesting, same box. July 17 - Nest looks complete. July 22 (Pair 7) - 1 egg. Rotenoned nest. July 28, Aug. 3 - 3 eggs, warm, adult near. Aug. 13,20,24 - 3 young in nest. ♀ feeding young in nest. (Male near with fledglings from first nesting.) Aug. 27 - Nest empty, intact.

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

- E. Bluebird: (Clarks red box, Amity Lake) El. 1700 ft. in box on sheathed post, (Pair 8) 4.5 ft. up. April 8 - Building. April 13 - I put sheathing around pole below box. Nest of rootlets looks complete. April 22 - 5 eggs. I rotenoned nest. May 5 - 5 eggs. Male defending box from Tree Swallows. May 13,19,24 - 5 young. May 29 - Nest empty, intact, except for one dead, well-feathered young. Nest material contained blowfly larvae.
- E. Bluebird: (Buttons box on dam) El. 1655 ft. in box on metal pole, 5.5 ft. up (Pair 9) at fresh pond side, grass-oak. April 13 - Building. April 18,24, May 2 - No eggs, but adults near. May 7 - 4 eggs, adult on. May 14 - 5 eggs, adult on. May 29 - 5 young. June 8 - Nest empty, intact. Adult near with young.
- E. Bluebird: Box 30 (Flints Br.) 4.5 mi. N. of Scio, in box on sheathed pole, (Pair 10) 4.8 ft. up in usual open field, here hay stubble. May 7 - Building. May 21 - 4 eggs. Rotenoned eggs. June 2,10,17 - 4 young. June 23 - Nest empty, intact. Adult with young near.
- E. Bluebird: (Box 40 at Lewis's, Amity Lake) El. 1665 ft. on sheathed pole 4 ft. (Pair 11) up in open field -- grass. June 8 - 6 eggs. Rotenoned nest. Adult on. June 16 - 6 eggs, adult on. June 30 - 4 young (where did the eggs go?). July 8 - Adult with young near empty, intact nest.
- Cedar Waxwing: (2 nc) 26 nestings. 17 successful produced at least 55 young. Three nests: outcome unknown because not revisited. Two nests: outcome unknown as too high or no eggs seen although adults were active at nest. Four nests: Lost to predation. First egg June 14.
- Cedar Waxwing: 9 more nestings. 5 successful produced at least 15 young. Two nests: outcome unknown because not revisited. Two nests: Lost to predation.
- Starling: 11 nestings (includes one each: 4.5 mi. N.E. of Belmont, 3 mi. E. of Belmont, 2 mi. S. of Wellsville, and S. edge of Scio Village). Total number of fledglings unknown as could not see into nesting holes. Nests were observed with adults building, entering and remaining, or feeding young in nest. At three nests adults were feeding young in nest. Near one nest adults were feeding 2 fledglings. One pair of Starlings usurped a nesting hole from a pair of Com. Flickers.
- Red-eyed Vireo: El. 1960 ft., in deciduous woods, oak-maple, on branch of Sugar (Pair 1) Maple Sapling, 7.8 ft. up. June 3 - 1 egg plus 1 Brown-headed Cowbird egg. June 7 - 3 eggs plus 1 Cowbird egg which I removed. June 14 - 3 eggs, adult on. June 21 - 3 young, adult on. July 2 - Nest empty, intact.

Nesting Records -- 1981 cont.

Red-eyed Vireo: El. 1675 ft. in mixed woods, pine-maple, at tip of maple branch
(Pair 2) 8 ft. up. June 16 - New nest. No eggs, adult near. June 20 -
2 cowbird eggs in nest. Adult vireo near. June 23 - Nest empty,
robbed.

Amity Lake
Belmont, NY 14813
Allegany County

BIRDS AND POETS

(A sampling of poetry -- old and new -- relating to ornithology. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions and poems.)

Alexander Wilson (1766 - 1813) in American Ornithology included, in addition to elaborate illustrations, primarily scientific information: taxonomy, morphology, behavior, food sources and plumages. But also, especially in the case of well-known birds, he passed along impressions of human associations, emphasizing birds' values to us. He did this in prose and in a few cases, rhymed couplets, as exemplified by the following:

The usual spring and summer song of the Blue-Bird is a soft, agreeable, and oft-repeated warble, uttered with open, quivering wings, and is extremely pleasing. In his motions and general character, he has great resemblance to the Robin Redbreast of Britain; and, had he the brown olive of that bird, instead of his own blue, could scarcely be distinguished from him. Like him, he is known to almost every child; and shows as much confidence in man by associating with him in summer, as the other by his familiarity in winter. He is also of a mild and peaceful disposition, seldom fighting or quarreling with other birds. His society is courted by the inhabitants of the country, and few farmers neglect to provide for him, in some suitable place, a snug little summer-house, ready fitted and rent free. For this he more than sufficiently repays them by the cheerfulness of his song, and the multitude of injurious insects which he daily destroys. Towards fall, that is, in the month of October, his song changes to a single plaintive note, as he passes over the yellow many-colored woods; and its melancholy air recalls to our minds the approaching decay of the face of nature. Even after the trees are stripped of their leaves, he still lingers over his native fields, as if loath to leave them. About the middle or end of November, few or none of them are seen; but, with every return of mild and open weather, we hear his plaintive note amidst the fields, or in the air, seeming to deplore the devastations of winter. Indeed, he appears scarcely ever totally to forsake us; but to follow fair weather through all its journeyings till the return of spring.

Such are the mild and pleasing manners of the Blue-Bird, and so universally is he esteemed, that I have often regretted that no pastoral muse has yet arisen in this western, woody world, to do justice to his

name, and endear him to us still more by the tenderness of verse, as has been done to his representative in Britain, the Robin Redbreast. A small acknowledgment of this kind I have to offer, which the reader, I hope, will excuse as a tribute to rural innocence.

When winter's cold tempests and snows are no more,
Green meadows and brown furrow'd field reappearing,
The fishermen hauling their shad to the shore,
And cloud-cleaving Geese to the lakes are a-steering;
When first the lone butterfly flits on the wing;
When red glow the maples, so fresh and so pleasing,—
O then comes the Blue-Bird, the herald of spring!
And hails with his warblings the charms of the season.

Then loud-piping frogs make the marshes to ring;
Then warm glows the sunshine, and fine is the weather;
The blue woodland flowers just beginning to spring,
And spicewood and sassafras budding together:
O then to your gardens, ye housewives, repair,
Your walks border up, sow and plant at your leisure;
The Blue-Bird will chant from his box such an air,
That all your hard toils will seem truly a pleasure!

He flits through the orchard, he visits each tree,
The red-flowering peach, and the apple's sweet blossoms;
He snaps up destroyers wherever they be,
And seizes the caitiffs that lurk in their bosoms;
He drags the vile grub from the corn it devours,
The worms from their webs, where they riot and welter;
His song and his services freely are ours,
And all that he asks is — in summer a shelter.

The ploughman is pleased when he gleans in his train,
Now searching the furrows, now mounting to cheer him;
The gardener delights in his sweet, simple strain,
And leans on his spade to survey and to hear him
The slow, lingering schoolboys forget they'll be chid,
While gazing intent as he warbles before them,
In mantle of sky-blue, and bosom so red,
That each little loiterer seems to adore him.

When all the gay scenes of the summer are o'er,
And autumn slow enters, so silent and fallow,
And millions of warblers, that charm'd us before,
Have fled in the train of the sun-seeking Swallow,
The Blue-Bird, forsaken, yet true to his home,
Still lingers, and looks for a milder to-morrow,
Till, forced by the horrors of winter to roam,
He sings his adieu in a lone note of sorrow.

While spring's lovely season, serene, dewy, warm,
The green face of earth, and the pure blue of heaven,
Or love's native music have influence to charm.
Or sympathy's glow to our feelings are given,
Still dear to each bosom the Blue-Bird shall be;
His voice, like the thrillings of hope, is a treasure;
For, through bleakest storms, if a calm he but see,
He comes to remind us of sunshine and pleasure!

NOTES

Call for Bird Feeder and House Designs

A new book, tentatively titled The Audubon Society Handbook for Attracting Birds, will include innovative homemade designs for bird feeders, houses and baths. The author, Stephen W. Kress, is looking for improvements to standard models of feeders and houses and original designs for any home-made bird attracting creations. Novel approaches to repelling squirrels, cats and nuisance birds are also welcome. In addition to the handbook, some of the submitted material may be selected for articles in the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's new magazine, The Living Bird Quarterly. The designers of selected plans will be acknowledged in the book and articles.

Mail detailed plans with measurements (and photographs if available) to:

Dr. Stephen W. Kress
Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

November 24th:	No meeting. <i>Happy Thanksgiving!!</i>
December 8th:	Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.
December 22nd:	No meeting. <i>Merry Christmas!! and Happy New Year!!</i>
January 12th:	Dr. Charles Smith (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology), <u>Illusions of Bird Feeding.</u>

January 26th: Marc J. Chelemer, Bowerbirds. Bowerbirds have been the subject of much literature lately. A series in Science News, and two articles in Nature are the present exposure of the speaker to these curious birds. A more in-depth investigation into their habits, behavior, taxonomy, etc. will be presented, along with a few dabbles into Darwin's sexual selection theories. Additionally, Bill Bogacki will report on the results of the Christmas Bird Count.

- Upcoming: 1) The Programs Committee is investigating the feasibility of a dinner meeting in April (say the 13th) at a banquet room of a Western New York restaurant. Feedback is invited on program possibilities, and good local eateries. Call Marc Chelemer at 885-0474 (home), 879-2594 (work), or Peggy Daniels at 832-1683.
- 2) A spokesman for Niagara Mohawk and/or the Niagara Power Project will be contacted to possibly speak on the environmental impact of an upcoming electrical project on the Lake and River.

For further information contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the remainder of 1982.

November 21st: Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Harriette and Walter Klabunde (754-4424) B.O.S., and Gordon Meade (248-2032) G.O.S. Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.

December 5th: Niagara Loop Trip. Leader - Bob Klips (882-7956). We will meet at the Vermont Street and Busti Avenue entrance to the Peace Bridge at 8:00 a.m., or at the parking lot on the River Road about 1/2 mile southwest of the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie, Ontario at 8:15 a.m.

December 19th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Bogacki (674-5781).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

Volume 48, No. 8

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of the
Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake, Jean Babcock.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850
JAN 03 1983

VOLUME 48

SEPTEMBER 1982

NUMBER 9

THE MONTH

August was cloudy, wet and cool. It was the coolest August in 18 years with five record low temperatures established or tied including the lowest reading ever of 38°(F) on the 29th. The summer weather we enjoyed throughout July and early August ended with a cold front on the 21st ushering in a period of cool autumn weather which persisted until month's end. The average temperature for the month was 65.0°(F), 3.4 degrees below normal; rainfall measured 4.62 inches, 1.09 inches above average for the period. A record rainfall of 1.46 inches was measured on August 25th. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Most of the records received by the compiler in August concerned migrating birds in their autumn passage through our study area. On August 8th, Frances Rew reported a total of 14 species of Warblers, all presumed migrants, in three separate sections of the state reforestation area in the Town of Charlotte in Chautauqua County. These birds included a very early Blackpoll Warbler. Also seen moving through that area on that date were Chickadees, Nuthatches, Catbirds, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos and many Towhees, some still in immature plumage. The first wave of migrants were observed at Erie Beach, Ontario on the north shore of Lake Erie on August 15th and included a Northern Waterthrush and Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided and Canada Warblers.

The shorebird migration continued to command interest throughout August with the mud flats and beaches attracting many individuals but comparatively few species of birds. However, two Willets were reported by an unidentified observer at the mouth of the Canadaway Creek sanctuary just south of Dunkirk on Lake Erie on August 14th. Three Baird's Sandpipers were also reported from this site on August 1st. A Western Sandpiper was reported seen at Morgan's Point, Ontario on August 22nd and a second, possibly the same bird at that location on the 27th. Unfortunately, no descriptive write-ups were submitted and because of the strong resemblance of this species to its congener, the Semipalmated Sandpiper, the record was not accepted. On the 22nd also, a Long-billed Dowitcher was seen by

Harold Axtell and several other observers at Rock Point Provincial Park. This bird was in the company of several juvenal-plumaged Short-billed Dowitchers from which it was easily distinguished by its larger size, longer bill and much grayer plumage, lacking any of the orange buffy coloration of its short-billed companions. The Merion Sod farm just north of Lowbanks in Moulton Township, Ontario once again attracted considerable numbers of Black-billed Plovers and Killdeer but only two Golden Plover and no Buff-breasted Sandpipers by month's end.

Other interesting records for the month include up to four Great Egrets observed all month on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by John Morse. Morse also reported two Broad-winged Hawks flying over the refuge on August 27th, early migrants for this species and an Osprey, seen at the N.Y. State Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on the 28th. An Osprey was also reported in the Town of Concord on August 17th. On August 24th, a female Wild Turkey with two poults was seen on the Oak Orchard Road in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge by Gail Culver. A Carolina Wren discovered by Robert Schrader near Sour Springs Road on the National Wildlife Refuge in August is the first record for this species from that refuge. Vivian Pitzrick reports that 14 pairs of Bluebirds fledged 77 young birds this season on the 'Bluebird Trail' in the Town of Amity in Allegany County. Yet another location for House Finches in our study area is reported by Bruce Duncan who saw three birds of this species, none adult males, at a feeder at the home of Mrs. Estelle Howard on Cleary Street in the Village of Dunnville, Ontario. He also observed a Common Grackle with a white head and neck at this feeder. Eye coloration was normal for this species but its piebald appearance made the bird quite striking and a local celebrity of sorts.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	August	22	3 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
D-crest. Cormorant	"	21	6 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Great Egret	"	5-24	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	25,29	4,4 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	30	3 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Least Bittern	"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(fledgling recovered injured; died)	
Pintail	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Red-br. Merganser	"	28	4 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Hess

Volume 48, No. 9 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Turkey Vulture	August	6,9,10	1,1,1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Sharp-b. Hawk	"	30	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1-3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	29	1	Gowanda	Barbers
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	27 F	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Osprey	"	28	1	Tonawanda WMA	Morse
*Amer. Golden Plover	"	22 F	2	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	24	2	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Axtell
Black-bell. Plover	"	22	50	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	22	34	Moulton Twp., Ont.	Axtell
Solitary Sandpiper	"	30	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Red Knot	"	14 F,21,27	1,3,4	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	22	3	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*Baird's Sandpiper	"	15 F	1	Rose Hill, Ont.	Andrle, Brock
	"	30,31	3,3	St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
*Long-b. Dowitcher	"	22	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
*Wilson's Phalarope	"	24 F	3	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
	"	24 F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Caspian Tern	"	15	2	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	16	2	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
	"	24	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell et al
Black Tern	"	7	300	Erie Beach, Ont.	Hess
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	21	2	Dunn Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	24	5	Port Colborne, Ont.	Axtell
	"	27	3	Town of Sheldon	Rosche
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	25 F	2	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Winter Wren	"	1	1	Little Valley	Rosches
Carolina Wren	"	6	1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Schrader
Swainson's Thrush	"	1-31	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	1-10	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	28 F	1	Morgan's Point, Ont.	Hess
Philadelphia Vireo	"	22 F	1	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	15 F	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Blackburnian Warbler	"	15 F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Brock
Blackpoll Warbler	"	8 F	1	Town of Charlotte	Rew
Nor. Waterthrush	"	15 F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Brock
Canada Warbler	"	15 F	2	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Brock
House Finch	"	1-31	2-5	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	13,17	6,15	Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	27	3	Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 240

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. 6

Total for year 246

NESTING RECORDS -- 1981

(Part 3 of 3)

Vivian Mills Pitzrick

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER: First documentation for Allegany County in files of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY. 5 mi. N. of Scio, Lat. 42° 13', Long. 77° 59', El. 1700 ft. In meadow-like opening in tiny swamp in deciduous woods of willow and poplar. Near a running creek in swampy area in raspberry bushes and dry grasses, 4 inches up. May 22 - ♀ carrying dry grass. Male also at site. 9:50 a.m. nest well started and is woven in bottom like a basket (criss-cross). May 25 - 1 Warbler egg and 1 Cowbird egg. No apparent lining in nest. Dampened hands, boots and slacks with Methyl Salicylate-scented water before approaching nest area. I removed Cowbird egg. May 29 - 4 Warbler eggs (adult on) and another Cowbird egg which I left. May 31 - 4 Warbler eggs. ♀ on nest and chipped upon leaving nest. I removed Cowbird egg. (Used winter-green scent again.) June 3 - Adult on nest; I didn't disturb. She was still there when I left; presumably she was on eggs. June 7 - Nest empty--lost to predation. A number of this species was found west of Houghton in June 1957. (F)

Yellow Warbler: 12 nestings. Nine successful fledged 36 young. Three lost to predation.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 4.5 mi. east of Belmont, Lat. 42° 14', Long. 77° 59' (Pair 1) (Reddy Rd., upper), El. 1920 ft. in coniferous plantation, spruce-goldenrod, on branch of Norway Spruce, 3 ft. up. June 25 - ♀ carried feather to site. July 1 - Adult near. July 15 - 1 Warbler egg and 1 young Cowbird in nest. Adults feeding Cowbird in nest. Cowbird c. 6 days old. July 22 - Nest empty, intact--lost to Cowbirds.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: (nc) Same location as above, El. 1990 ft. in Norway Spruce (Pair 2) 1.5 ft. up. May 30 - Building, no eggs, ♀ at nest, male near. June 6 - No eggs, no adult. June 1 - New feather on nest, no eggs, nest deserted?

Chestnut-sided Warbler: El. 1830 ft. in Gray-barked Dogwood, 2.6 ft. up. June (Pair 1) 13 - 1 egg, adult near. June 22 - 3 eggs and 1 Cowbird egg, which I removed, adult on. July 1 - 3 young c. 3 days old, adult near. July 10 - Adults feeding young near nest. (SPw)

Chestnut-sided Warbler: El. 1700 ft. (Amity Lake Inlet flat), in Gray-barked (Pair 2) Dogwood, 3 ft. up. June 16 - Building. June 21 - 2 eggs, nest very messy--long strands of grass from lip outward on one side. June 22 - Adult on, I didn't disturb. June 30 - Nest empty, damaged.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: El. 1620 ft., in Gray-barked Dogwood, 3.5 ft. up.
(Pair 3) July 20, 24, 29 and August 5 - 1 egg, cold. Egg is
infertile -- left from nesting.

PRAIRIE WARBLER: 4.5 mi. east of Belmont (Reddy Rd.), Lat. 42° 14', Long. 77°
59' in fallow field, spruce-crataegus-grass, in Crataegus 8
ft. up. July 15 - 4 young fledged as my mirror neared nest.
Young fly well, adults near. 3 young fairly dull, on young
brightly marked like male adult. RECORD LATE FOR NEW YORK
STATE FOR NESTLINGS BY ELEVEN DAYS.

Ovenbird: 3 mi. north of Scio (Cooley Hill), Lat. 42° 13', Long. 77° 58', El.
2260 ft. in mixed woods, Oak-Beech-Hemlock, on ground under dry leaves
near base of 5 ft. sapling. May 26 - Adult building, second adult
near; nest opens to southeast, at base of Beech sapling. June 7 -
5 eggs, adult on. June 14 - 4 tiny young Warblers in nest. July 8
- Nest empty, intact.

Com. Yellowthroat: El. 1665 ft. (Pam Jordans, Amity Lake), in grassy lawn area,
grass-Maple, in Day Lilies 1.5 ft. up. July 8 - 1 Warbler
egg and 1 Cowbird egg, adult on. I removed Cowbird egg.
July 14 - Warbler egg gone, another Cowbird egg in nest,
egg cold, I left it. July 17 - Cowbird egg only in nest,
egg warm, adult Yellowthroat near, agitated. July 29 -
Nest empty, intact; nest lost to Cowbirds.

House Sparrow: 7 nestings (included 2 in Scio, one in E. Amherst). 2 in Martin
nest boxes successful--number of young unknown. One, outcome
unknown because not revisited. Four I removed from nest boxes
before eggs could hatch.

Redwinged Blackbird: 23 nestings. 13 successful produced a probable 39 young.
Nine were lost to predation. One, outcome unknown because
not revisited.

No. Oriole (Balt.): 8 nestings (included one on Phillips Creek, and one on
Plumbottom). 6 successful (number of fledglings unknown).
2 lost to predation (nests were torn apart and one was
carried away).

Com. Grackle: 2 nestings (one colony; one single nest). Number of fledglings
unknown. Both produced young, at least 8 total.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 18 nests parasited: two of Red-eyed Vireo nests; two of
Chestnut-sided Warbler nests; one of Golden-winged Warbler
nest; one of Yellow-rumped Warbler nest; one of Indigo
Bunting nest; one of Purple Finch nest; ten of E. Phoebe
nests. I removed Cowbird eggs from nine nests. Two nests
lost to predation. Two nest failed when highway crew
painting bridge removed Phoebe nests with eggs, which
also contained Cowbird eggs. Four nest successful pro-
ducing 5 young. One nest outcome unknown as not revisited.

- Scarlet Tanager: El. 1685 ft. in deciduous woods, Soft Maple-White Oak, on branch of Soft Maple tree, 45 ft. up (Amity Lake). June 8 - Adult on, male near. June 16 - ♀ on, male feeding young in nest. June 20 - 2 young show in nest, male and ♀ both feeding young in nest. June 26 - Male with 3 young out of nest near nest; nest intact.
- Cardinal: (Reddy Rd.) El. 1660 ft. in coniferous woods, spruce-grass, on branch (Pair 1) of Norway Spruce, 4.5 ft. up. May 23 - 2 eggs, cold. May 30 - Empty egg shells in nest; predation failure.
- Cardinal: (Fantauzzo) El. 1640 ft. in mixed woods, spruce-poplar, in Buckthorn (Pair 2) shrub, 4.3 ft. up. May 20 - 3 eggs, adult on, second adult near. June 1 - 2 young, 2 days old; adult on. June 9, Nest empty, intact; adults near agitated, young must be near.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak: El. 1705 ft. in deciduous woods, Maple-Ash, in Crataegus, 7.5 ft. up. June 16 - 1 young in nest, bottom side up. Crow left area with young in beak, leaving this one. July 6 - Nest empty, intact.
- Indigo Bunting: 6 mi. north of Scio, El. 1805 ft. in raspberry, 2.6 ft. up. June 12 - 2 eggs and 1 Cowbird egg, which I removed; adult on. June 19, July 1 - 2 eggs, warm. July 10 - 2 eggs, cold; nest deserted.
- Purple Finch: (Reddy Rd.) 4 mi. east of Belmont, Lat. 42° 14', Long. 77° 59', El. 1920 ft. in conifer plantation, spruce-grass, on branch of Norway Spruce, 7.3 ft. up. May 23 - 1 egg and 1 Cowbird egg. May 30 - 4 eggs and 1 Cowbird egg. June 6 - 1 young Cowbird in nest, can't see eggs. June 12 - Nest empty, intact -- lost to Cowbirds.
- Purple Finch: (Pam's) El. 1665 ft. in Arbor vitae in lawn area, 6 ft. up. June 8 - 2 eggs, cold; adult singing near. June 16 - Nest empty, damaged.
- Am. Goldfinch: 30 nestings. 19 successful produced at least 94 fledglings. 10 failed due to predation. One nest, too high to see into, had eggs or young and was visited twice; outcome unknown because not re-visited. Total infertile eggs, 2. Eight nests produced RECORD EARLY NESTLINGS for N.Y. State: one nest, 9 days early; one nest, 8 days early; one nest, 6 days early; two nests, 4 days early; one nest, 3 days early; and two nests, 2 days early, based on dates given in Bull, Birds of N.Y. State.
- Am. Goldfinch: One nest, 5 ft. up in Black Willow. August 26 - Building. August 31 - 2 eggs. Sept. 7 - 3 eggs. Sept. 14 - 2 young in nest. Sept. 19, 25, 28, 29 and 30 - 2 young in nest. RECORD LATE for nestlings by six days (Bull, ibid.). Oct. 1 - Nest empty, intact.

- Am. Goldfinch: 23 more nestings. 19 successfully produced about 80 fledglings. 3 nest lost to predation. 1 nest had 4 eggs deserted (possibly Sharp-shinned Hawk in area carried off female). 1 successful nest contained 1 dead young (wings nearly out of sheath) after others fledged.
- Am. Goldfinch: (11 nc) 11 nests with adults near, agitated, or building, possibly had eggs but I missed them. Material of two of these disappeared and new nests with eggs were found nearby, within 30 ft.
- Rufous-sided Towhee: 6 mi. north of Scio, El. 2000 ft. in deciduous woods, ash-crataegus, on ground under 5 ft. spindley Crataegus. May 26 - 3 eggs. June 3 - Nest empty, damaged.
- Rufous-sided Towhee: 4.5 mi. east of Belmont (Reddy Rd.), Lat. 42° 14', Long. 77° 59', El. 1915 ft. in coniferous plantation, spruce-Crataegus, in shrubby apple, 2 ft. up. July 1 - Nest looks complete, no eggs. July 15 - 3 eggs, adult on. July 22 - Nest empty--must have been robbed.
- Rufous-sided Towhee: 6 mi. north of Scio, El. 1965 ft. (Hood Hill), in mixed woods, Hemlock-Oak, in Blackberry vine 1.3 ft. up. July 12 - 2 young in nest, adult on, second adult near. July 16 - Nest empty, intact.
- Dark-eyed Junco: (Cooley Hill) El. 1720 ft. in mixed woods, Oak-Pine, in bank above roadside ditch, in roadside cut bank, .8 ft. up. July 9 - 2 young fledged as I neared. 1 egg infertile, left in nest. 2 adult in attendance.
- Chipping Sparrow: (1 nc) 22 nestings. 9 successful produced a probable 27 fledglings with one dead young found in one nest. 11 lost to predation. One deserted. One outcome unknown because not revisited.
- Field Sparrow: 4 nestings. Three successful produced at least 6 young. 1 egg infertile. One nest lost to predation.
- Song Sparrow: 24 nestings. 14 successful fledged a probable 34 young. 2 eggs infertile. 9 nests lost to predation. One nest deserted.

Totals: 58 Species
 477 Nests
 3 New for V.P. (species)
 1 New for Allegany County at
 Lab. of Ornithology, Cornell

Amity Lake
Belmont, NY 14813
Allegany County

BIRDS AND POETS

(A sampling of poetry -- old and new -- relating to ornithology. Members are encouraged to submit suggestions and poems.)

The following poem by Alexander Wilson (1766-1813) traces the activities of one Eastern Kingbird from its then unknown southern wintering area to "COLUMBIA", Wilson's patriotic appellation for his fledgling nation. The Kingbird has also been known as the "Bee Martin", on account of its taste for bees, and that aspect of its food habits is the reason for the subject bird's demise, by the hand of man, in this passage from American Ornithology. As usual, he proclaims the bird's apparent virtues and value to man: intense courage and the destruction and distraction of harmful insects and predators.

TYRANT FLYCATCHER, OR KING BIRD

Far in the south, where vast Maragnon flows,
And boundless forests unknown wilds enclose;
Vine-tangled shores, and suffocating woods,
Parched up with heat or drowned with pouring floods;
Where each extreme alternately prevails,
And Nature sad their ravages bewails;
Lo! high in air, above those trackless wastes,
With spring's return the King Bird hither hastes;
Coasts the famed Gulf,* and, from his height, explores
Its thousand streams, its long-indented shores,
Its plains immense, wide opening on the day,
Its lakes and isles, where feathered millions play:
All tempt not him; till, gazing from on high,
COLUMBIA's regions wide below him lie;
There end his wanderings and his wish to roam,
There lies his native woods, his fields, his home;
Down, circling, he descends, from azure heights,
And on a full-blown sassafras alights.

Fatigued and silent, for a while he views
His old frequented haunts, and shades recluse;
Sees brothers, comrades, every hour arrive -
Hears, humming round, the tenants of the hive:
Love fires his breast; he woos, and soon is blest;
And in the blooming orchard builds his nest.

Come now, ye cowards! ye whom Heaven disdains,
Who boast the happiest home - the richest plains;
On whom, perchance, a wife, an infant's eye
Hang as their hope, and on your arm rely;
Yet, when the hour of danger and dismay
Comes on your country, sneak in holes away,
Shrink from the perils ye were bound to face,
And leave those babes and country to disgrace;
Come here, (if such we have,) ye dastard herd!
And kneel in dust before this noble bird.

* Of Mexico.

When the specked eggs within his nest appear,
Then glows affection, ardent and sincere;
No discord sours him when his mate he meets;
But each warm heart with mutual kindness beats.
For her repast he bears along the lea
The bloated gadfly, and the balmy bee;
For her repose scours o'er th' adjacent farm,
Whence Hawks might dart, or lurking foes alarm;
For now abroad a band of ruffians prey,
The Crow, the Cuckoo, and th' insidious Jay;
These, in the owner's absence, all destroy,
And murder every hope and every joy.

Soft sits his brooding mate, her guardian he,
Perched on the top of some tall, neighboring tree;
Thence, from the thicket to the concave skies,
His watchful eye around unceasing flies.
Wrens, Thrushes, Warblers, startled at his note,
Fly in affright the consecrated spot.
He drives the plundering Jay, with honest scorn,
Back to his woods; the Mocker, to his thorn;
Sweeps round the Cuckoo, as the thief retreats;
Attacks the Crow; the diving Hawk defeats;
Darts on the Eagle downwards from afar,
And, 'midst the clouds, prolongs the whirling war.
All danger o'er, he hastens back elate,
To guard his post, and feed his faithful mate.

Behold him now, his little family flown,
Meek, unassuming, silent, and alone;
Lured by the well-known hum of favorite bees,
As slow he hovers o'er the garden trees;
(For all have failings, passions, whims that lead,
Some favorite wish, some appetite to feed;)
Straight he alights, and, from the pear-tree, spies
The circling stream of humming insects rise;
Selects his prey; darts on the busy brood,
And shrilly twitters o'er his savory food.

Ah! ill-timed triumph! direful note to thee,
That guides thy murderer to the fatal tree;
See where he skulks! and takes his gloomy stand,
The deep-charged musket hanging in his hand;
And, gaunt for blood, he leans it on a rest,
Prepared, and pointed at thy snow-white breast.
Ah, friend! good friend! forbear that barbarous deed;
Against it valor, goodness, pity, plead;
If e'er a family's griefs, a widow's woe,
Have reached thy soul, in mercy let him go!
Yet, should the tear of pity nought avail,
Let interest speak, let gratitude prevail;
Kill not thy friend, who thy whole harvest shields,

And sweeps ten thousand vermin from thy fields;
Think how this dauntless bird, thy poultry's guard,
Drove every Hawk and Eagle from thy yard;
Watched round thy cattle as they fed, and slew
The hungry, blackening swarms that round them flew;
Some small return - some little right resign,
And spare his life whose services are thine!
--- I plead in vain! Amid the bursting roar,
The poor, lost King Bird welters in his gore!

NOTES

Ontario Nest Records Scheme

The 17th report of the Ontario Nest Records Scheme (ONRS), which has been operative for 26 breeding seasons, has recently been released and is available from:

Ontario Nest Records Scheme
Department of Ornithology
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2C6

The project is a jointly administered project of the Museum and the Canadian Wildlife Service. The 13 page report includes instructions to potential field workers for the submittal of nest cards which include, in addition to observer and locality data: activity at nest and/or nest contents, nest habitat and position (including height), and separate card documentation for instances of Cowbird parasitism. There are now 80,445 nest cards on file for the province (including 3,056 cards received since the last ONRS report), documenting nestings for 271 species. Several other species are designated as hypothetical (no material evidence of breeding) or are known Ontario breeders for which no actual nests have yet been found, bringing the current Ontario breeding list to 284 species. The ONRS report lists these species.

To be available early in 1983, Breeding Birds of Ontario: Nidiology and Distribution - Volume I, Nonpasserines, will summarize the nest card records to 1980 as well as other available breeding reports. It will include breeding distribution maps for each species, together with photographs and line drawings of various birds and their provincial nesting habitats. The nidiological accounts of each species describe in order: breeding habitats, nest locations, nest positions, nest sizes, clutch sizes, incubation periods, and egg dates. This work has been 14 years in preparation and its completion in large part is due to the endeavors and cooperation of hundreds of field workers, both amateur and professional.

Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas

1983 will be the third of five summers of data collecting for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas. Ornithologists who will be visiting the province are invited to participate. Of special interest, in June and July, are flights from within Northern Ontario to remote areas of boreal forest, muskeg and tundra which have been arranged free of charge for pairs of atlas volunteers. For information, write:

Mike Cadman
Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas
FON Conservation Centre
355 Lesmill Road
Don Mills, Ontario M3B 2W8
(416) 444-8419

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- December 8th: Various members will present birding travelogues on such places as Trinidad and Tobago, Africa and Australia.
- December 22nd: No meeting. *Merry Christmas!! and Happy New Year!!*
- January 12th: Dr. Charles Smith (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology),
Illusions of Bird Feeding.
- January 26th: Marc J. Chelemer, Bowerbirds. Bowerbirds have been the subject of much literature lately. A series in Science News, and two articles in Nature are the present exposure of the speaker to these curious birds. A more in-depth investigation into their habits, behavior, taxonomy, etc. will be presented, along with a few dabbles into Darwin's sexual selection theories. Additionally, Bill Bogacki will report on the results of the Christmas Bird Count.
- Upcoming: 1) The Programs Committee is investigating the feasibility of a dinner meeting in April (say the 13th) at a banquet room of a Western New York restaurant. Feedback is invited on program possibilities, and good local eateries. Call Marc Chelemer at 885-0474 (home), 879-2594 (work), or Peggy Daniels at 832-1683.
- 2) A spokesman for Niagara Mohawk and/or the Niagara Power Project will be contacted to possibly speak on the environmental impact of an upcoming electrical project on the Lake and River.

Volume 48, No. 9 "Program - Meetings" cont.

For further information contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for the remainder of 1982.

December 5th: Niagara Loop Trip. Leader - Bob Klips (882-7956). We will meet at the Vermont Street and Busti Avenue entrance to the Peace Bridge at 8:00 a.m., or at the parking lot on the River Road about 1/2 mile southwest of the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie, Ontario at 8:15 a.m.

December 19th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Bogacki (674-5781).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

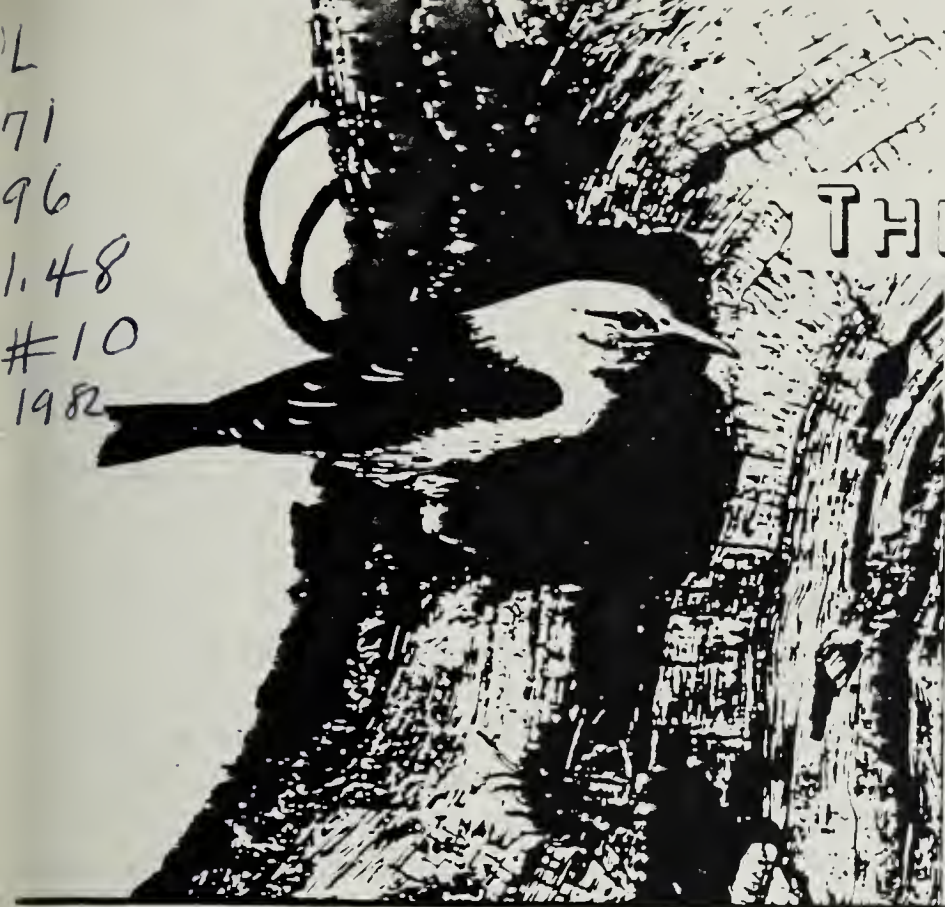
BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of the Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake, Jean Babcock.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N. Y. 14850
JAN 06 1983

VOLUME 48

OCTOBER 1982

NUMBER 10

THE MONTH

The weather in September was cloudy and wet with mild temperatures. Aside from high winds accompanying severe thunderstorms on the 2nd, there were no major weather disturbances. Following several days of below normal temperatures ushered in by a cold front after that storm, the weather became unseasonably hot with a high temperature for the month of 89° (F) recorded on September 13th. Heavy rainfall on the 15th brought more seasonable temperatures for the rest of the period. Cloudy, overcast weather between the 21st and 29th resulted in the heaviest toll ever recorded of nocturnal migrating passerines and other birds killed striking the television towers in the elevated regions of the Towns of Colden and Wales in southern Erie County. Arthur Clark of the Buffalo Museum of Science has monitored the mortality of migrating birds striking these towers since 1967; with the able assistance of Art Schaffner, Clark collected the remains of over 3,500 birds of 53 species at the base of three television towers between September 21st and the 29th. The largest kill was recorded during the night of September 21st when over 1,200 birds were recovered. It coincided with a massive nocturnal movement of migrants on that date which one observer in West Seneca described as so great that the birds could not be accurately counted. The average temperature in September was 61.6° (F), exactly normal for the period. Precipitation measured 3.37 inches, 0.12 inches above average with 49% of possible sunshine recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

A weather front on September 15th with shifting winds to the northwest brought the first large flight of migrating passerines with as many as 40 calls per minute of nocturnal migrants heard during the night of September 15th - 16th. During the television tower bird kill census conducted the following day, a Yellow-breasted Chat was among the 129 birds of 29 species collected. During the massive kills between the 21st and the 29th, several species of interest were recovered at these towers including a Yellow Rail, an extremely rare fall migrant in Western New York, collected at the WKBW (Ch. 7) tower in the Town of Colden on September 24th. Other unusual species recovered at these towers include a Brown Thrasher, an Indigo Bunting, a Pine Warbler, several Connecticut Warblers and a Towhee. Most of the birds killed struck the WGR-TV (Ch. 2) tower in the Town of Wales and the WKBW-TV tower

in the Town of Colden. At this writing, Arthur Clark has not compiled his final figures for television tower mortality for the Fall 1982 migration, but Bay-breasted Warblers and Swainson's Thrushes are the two species of passerine migrants comprising the bulk of the victims of the kills.

Interesting observations for September include the continuing presence of Great Egrets at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. Many reports of migrating Canada Geese were received during the week of September 26th with flocks of birds seen or heard calling, mostly in the early morning or at twilight. Migrating Ospreys were reported at Rock Point Provincial Park on September 4th and at Port Maitland, Ontario on the 11th. Both Golden and Black-bellied Plovers were seen in good numbers at the Merion Sod farm near Lowbanks, Ontario and other locations but no Buff-breasted Sandpipers were reported. Several record early sightings of Glaucous Gulls were reported in September. On the 4th, Terence Mosher observed a large White-winged Gull resting in and flying about the waters of Dunkirk Harbor. The bird was noticeably larger than the Herring Gulls with which it associated and it was identified as a second year Glaucous Gull; a 'life bird' for Mosher who had been informed of its presence earlier on this date by Judith Kumler. On September 24th, Frances Rew and Lois Buck saw a second Glaucous Gull at Dunkirk Harbor; this Gull, also a second year bird, was noticeably larger than the bird seen by Mosher and others on the 4th. On the 25th, this bird was seen in Dunkirk Harbor by Mosher, Robert Sundell of Jamestown and other members of the Lake Erie Bird Club who had brought their guests, Dr. Roger Tory Peterson and his wife, Virginia, to the site for the occasion. Robert Andrie and his party saw the first Little Gull of the fall migration at LaSalle Park in Buffalo on September 4th but only a few birds, mostly adults were seen on the Niagara River for the remainder of the month. No Franklin's Gulls were reported in September.

The 'Raven Watch' continues in Allegany County. On September 25th, Elizabeth Brooks, Lois Chapman and Norm Ives were bird-watching in the Alma Pond area of the Town of Alma when Mrs. Brooks heard the guttural croak of a Raven and later, on the Alma Hill Road, saw two large black crow-like birds with unmistakable wedge-shaped, rounded tails uttering their "typical hoarse, croaking call." On September 23rd, Vivian Pitzrick was walking through a copse of willows and maple saplings at Amity Lake near Belmont when she heard the guttural call of a Raven and spotted the bird flying overhead; again the wedge-shaped tail was seen to confirm identification.

Finally, a massive influx of migrants during the last three days of September brought some interesting observations. On September 28th, Ward Kloepper witnessed a sizeable raptor migration at Thunder Bay, Ontario where, between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. he saw 108 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 10 Red-tailed Hawks, 1 Turkey Vulture, 2 American Kestrels and an Osprey pass over his residence there. An Osprey was also seen at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on September 29th. On September 28th, Terence Mosher and Paul Baglia saw a late Olive-sided Flycatcher perched on the limb of a dead poplar tree on the campus of the State University College at Fredonia.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that at acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Sept.	12	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Pied-billed Grebe	"	17 F	9 Alfred	Brooks
D.-cr. Cormorant	"	4	2 LaSalle Park, Bflo.	Andrle et al
	"	24	6 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	26	10 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Canada Goose	"	27 F	150 over Spring Brook	Danner
	"	28	150 over Belmont	Pitzricks
Common Goldeneye	"	4	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Hooded Merganser	"	4	4 Port Maitland, Ont.	Andrle et al
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	3	1 Town of Boston	Hess
Cooper's Hawk	"	2-25	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	24-28	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Osprey	"	4 F	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
	"	12	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	19-27	1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	23,25	1,1 Alma Pond	Brooks
	"	27	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Amer. Golden Plover	"	4	17 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	10	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	12	2 Port Maitland, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	12	25 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
Black-bell. Plover	"	4	55 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
Red Knot	"	7	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher
	"	10	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	19	4 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
W.-rump Sandpiper	"	15	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
Baird's Sandpiper	"	4,12	1,1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Dunlin	"	8 F	2 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher
	"	12	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Glaucous Gull	"	4 F	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	24	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	25	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
*Franklin's Gull	"	19 F	1 Bird Island, Bflo.	Andrle, Foster
	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
*Little Gull	"	4 F	1 LaSalle Park, Bflo.	Andrle et al
	"	15	3 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al

Common Tern	Sept.	10	400 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	"	19 L	1 Town of Holland	Becker
Common Nighthawk	"	13 L	25 Buffalo	Hess
Chimney Swift	"	25	8 Spring Brook	Danner
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	3	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosches
	"	5	1 Allenberg Bog	Chapples
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	16 F, 19	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	19	1 Town of Holland	Becker
Gr.-cr. Flycatcher	"	22 L	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	4	1 Stromness, Ont.	Andrle et al
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	28	1 Fredonia	Mosher, Bagli.
<u>Common Raven</u>	"	23	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25	2 Town of Alma	Brooks et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	17	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	25-30	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	14	12 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
	"	19	2 Alfred	Brooks
Winter Wren	"	17 F	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	27	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Carolina Wren	"	4	1 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	17 F, 22	1, 2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
Swainson's Thrush	"	9 F, 17	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	25	6 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	Becker
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	3-31 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	3	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Fredonia	Mosher et al
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	22 F-30	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	14 F-22	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	23, 26	2, 1 Alfred	Brooks
Cedar Waxwing	"	22	3 Eden	O'Dell
		(nest with three young birds)		
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	2-14 L	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	3 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Blue-w. Warbler	"	11 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Tennessee Warbler	"	2 F, 18	2, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	3	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Nashville Warbler	"	1 F	5 Town of Wales	Rosche
Northern Parula	"	20	1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	25 L	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	Becker
Yellow Warbler	"	8 L	1 Town of Holland	Becker
Magnolia Warbler	"	27	19 Alfred	Brooks
Cape May Warbler	"	13	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25	1 Town of Alma	Brooks
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-30	2-77 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bay-br. Warbler	"	2 F	7 Alfred	Brooks
	"	7	15 Town of Holland	Becker
Blackpoll Warbler	"	2, 23	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	7	10 Town of Holland	Becker
Bl-thr. Gr. Warbler	"	3	6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	8	1 Town of Holland	Becker

Pine Warbler	Sept.	15 F	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Hooded Warbler	"	29 L	2 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Wilson's Warbler	"	1 F, 2	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	3	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Northern Oriole	"	1-10 L	2-4 Spring Brook	Danner
House Finch	"	1-29	2-7 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	15 Town of Holland	Becker
Chipping Sparrow	"	29	19 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Lincoln's Sparrow	"	19 F, 20	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
White-thr. Sparrow	"	21 F, 23	2, 7 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	25	5 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	25	6 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	Becker

Species, sub-species & hybrids previously recorded this year.	246
Species, sub-species & hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total to date for year.	248

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of September 8, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Mike Zebehazy, and the Secretary's and Treasurers reports were read and approved.

- Announcements:
- 1) The Breeding Bird Atlas green sheets are due in the middle of September.
 - 2) A Nature Awareness Evening, sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Nature will be held September 24th in Niagara Falls. Brad Lown is organizing our participation in it.
 - 3) Upcoming Federation of New York State Bird Clubs annual meeting will be held in Riverhead, Long Island on October 1-3. The Klabundes will be our club delegates.

Program: Summer Birding Experiences of Members. Julia Wells, who spent about a week birding in Winnipeg and Churchill, Manitoba, showed us slides and told about many special northern bird sightings. Bill Burch passed along slide-illustrated hints about photographing birds with several different approaches to getting telephoto effects, and also told us about a trip out west. Everyone present related their summer discoveries: pelagic trips, "Atlasing", and a variety of vacations were shared and enjoyed.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Karen E. Renning

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of September 22, 1982

The meeting was opened by Vice-President Wavel Barber.

Bob Klips, new Prothonotary Editor, reported that every effort is being made (including terrific help from several people) to bring the publication up to date. He asked for articles, reports of field trips, short essays about special sightings, anecdotes, conservation news and announcements from members and committee chairpersons.

Jack Wright reported that the trampling, littering, and disturbance by off-the-road vehicles situation at Buckhorn State Park has worsened, citing the disappearance of 4 breeding species since last year. The Parks Department has gone to their legal counsel to attempt to retrieve the area from the Town.

Robert Andrle reported that Tifft Farm Nature Preserve is now being managed by the Science Museum. They will adhere to a nature center concept. A study is underway to census the wildlife and map the habitats there, with volunteer participants mainly from local colleges and universities, divided into 6 teams: Invertebrates, Reptiles and Amphibians, Fish, Birds, Mammals, and Plants. B.O.S. member Bob Klips will be on the botany team; Dr. Andrle is responsible for the avian studies as well as being the overall project coordinator.

Dr. Andrle also reported on the status of the Allegany Park Management Plan, wherein for the first time in N.Y.S. history, commercial logging and mineral exploitation would be made a primary park goal. The decision is to be made by Orin Lehman, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation (Agency Building 1, Federal Plaza, Albany, NY 12238).

Program: Wavel Barber presented an enlightening discussion of Taxonomy, Systematics and Synonymy. He highlighted the history of ornithological investigation in North America, the basic principles of animal species differentiation and the rules of zoological nomenclature, focusing on the A.O.U. checklist.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Harriette Klabunde

COMMENTS ON TAXONOMY, SYSTEMATICS & SYNONYMY
WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE HISTORY OF ORNITHOLOGY

(Talk given at Buffalo Ornithological Society
Meeting September 22, 1982) by Wavel H. Barber

Were a modern Hesiod to attempt - neither a cosmogony nor a theogony - but the genesis of even the least department of human knowledge, - were he to seek the beginnings of American Ornithology, he would find it only in Chaos. For from this sprang all things, great and small alike, to pass through Night and Nemesis to the light of days which first see orderly progress in the course of natural evolution, when is first established some sequence of events we recognize as causes and effects. Then there is system, and formal law; there science becomes possible; there its possible history begins.

Long was the time during which the birds of our country were known to its inhabitants, after the fashion of the people of those days, - known as things of which use could be made, and studied, too, that use might be made of them. But this period is prehistoric; no evidence remains, save in some quaint pictograph or rudely graven image. There followed a period - shorter by far than the former one, though it endures to-day - when the same birds awakened in other men an interest they could not excite in a savage breast, and the sense of beauty was felt. Use and Beauty! What may not spring from such divinely mated pair, when once they brood upon the human mind, like halcyons stilling troubled waters, sinking the instincts of the animal in the restful, satisfying reflections of the man?

The history of American Ornithology begins at the time when men first wrote upon American birds; for men write nothing without some reason, and to reason at all is the beginning of science, even as to reason aright is its end. The date no one can assign, unless it be arbitrarily; it was during the latter part of the sixteenth century, which, with the whole of the seventeenth, represents the formative or embryonic period during which were gathering about the germ the crude materials out of which an ornithology of North America was to be fashioned. As these accumulated and were assimilated, -- as the writings multiplied and books bred books, "each after its kind," this special department of knowledge grew up, and its form changed with each new impress made upon its plastic organization.

Viewing in proper perspective these three centuries and more which our subject has seen -- passing in retrospect the steps of its development -- we find that it offers several phases, representing as many "epochs" or major divisions, of every unequal duration, and of scientific significance inversely proportionate to their respective lengths. All that went before 1700 constitutes the first of these, which may be termed the Archaic epoch. The eighteenth century witnessed an extraordinary event, the consequence of which to systematic zoology cannot be over-estimated; it occurred almost exactly in the middle of the century, which is thus sharply divided into a Pre-Linnaean epoch, before the institution of the binomial nomenclature, and a Post-Linnaean epoch, during which this technic of modern zoology was established, -- each approximately of half a century's duration. In respect of our particular theme, the first quarter of the nineteenth century saw the "father of American ornithology," whose spirit pointed the crescent in the sky of the Wilsonian epoch. During the second quarter, these horns were filled with the genius of the Audubonian epoch. In the third, the plenteousness of a master mind has marked the Bairdian epoch.

That, my friends, was a quotation from the Historical preface to Key To North American Birds by Elliott Coues. This preface was written by him, datelined Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., April 1884.

Elliott Coues was one of the founders of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU).

This piece summarizes not only American ornithology but world-wide and history-wide ornithology as well, according to my recent readings of selected "bird" writings to learn more about Taxonomy, Systematics and Synonymy. These are words that I heard, along with "Splitters" and "Lumpers" to tell me that after having passed my earlier goal of 200 life birds with a solid 202 I had to drop the count to 199 by removing Red-shafted Flicker, Bullock's Oriole and Oregon Junco. The AOU

had decreed that taxonomically these were now conspecific with, respectively, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Baltimore Oriole and Slate-colored Junco, now known as Common Flicker, Northern Oriole and Dark-eyed Junco. This was now part of the Systematics of modern ornithology. That's what I was told. But I had no idea of what was meant. I only knew my bird life list species count did not include three birds I was sure I had seen.

Inadvertently, in the presence of Marc Chelemer, our program chairman, I stated I would like to know more about taxonomy, systematics and synonymy. Mark's immediate reply was "You find out and tell us about it on September 22, 1982."

The meaning of the words was not difficult to find, for instance: by looking in the new Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds, by John K. Terres, taxonomy is a word taken from the Greek words meaning arrangement and law with an English definition as "The Science of Classification of Birds and other animals and plants." The Encyclopedia went on to say that in Ornithology it may be divided into:

- 1) Classification, or the sorting of birds into orders, families, genera, species and sub-species;
- 2) Naming or nomenclature;
- 3) Describing.

Also, they indicated that systematics was synonymous (Rather reminiscent of synonymy, isn't it?) with taxonomy.

In Principles of Animal Taxonomy by George Gaylord Simpson, taxonomy and systematics are mentioned separately. Taxonomy is called "the theoretical study of classification, including its bases, principles, procedures and rules," and is referred to as a "generalization about classification."

Simpson's Principles says that systematics is "the scientific study of the kinds and diversity of organisms and of any and all relationships among them." And for a description of synonymy let's use one found in E.T. Shenk and J.H. McMaster's Procedures in Taxonomy. Synonymy is "a history of the nomenclature of a genus or species with the author's conclusions as to the validity of the names that have been applied." It has also been said that synonymy is "all published (available) scientific names by which the species may have been previously designated and, with bibliographic references to all previous descriptions or descriptive citations, under these names."

In a 1968 issue of The AUK it was revealed that in the rare book section of Cornell University was forty years of Waldo Lee McAtte's work, from 1907 to 1947. He was preparing a work called "American Bird Names and their Histories and Meanings. The data consists of 1,697 unpublished manuscript pages for Volume 1, and 90 file drawers of material for Volume 2. The grand total of names is estimated to be about half-a-million. These were the common names for birds in use in different parts of the country. Each locale might have a different pet name for the same bird. Local and state bird organizations tended to use the local common name. As interest in birds developed beyond the local level, the need for a widely acceptable list of common names of North American birds became apparent. The AOU went a long way

toward filling this need by including in the 5th Edition of the Checklist of North American Birds one common name for each species. Some of these common names have since been changed as the Great Egret, Black Scoter, American Kestrel, etc.

Just for fun I tried to make a list of the common names of our own Great Egret. The scientific name is Casmerodius albus -- Casmerodius is from the Greek for "gaping heron"; albus is latin for white. While Palmer's Handbook of North American Birds, copyrighted in 1962, called this bird "Great Egret", he did say, "Common Egret of AOU list". He also called it "American Egret (Am.), Large Egret (B.O.U. list)", etc. It was eleven years later that the AOU decreed in the April 1973 issue of The AUK, a "substitute for the modifier 'Common', in certain cases where first adopted in the Check-list, a short but more meaningful modifier, already widely used, i.e., Great Egret and Black Scoter..."

The checklist was revised at that same time for other than taxonomic reasons, as required by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature:

- 1) To eliminate some of the punctuation and pronunciation marks from the Latin names;
- 2) To agree gender of generic names in the Latin and Greek;
- 3) And, for still "other" reasons, the Committee eliminated the "d" from Wi(d)geon.

These changes, as well as a myriad of changes for taxonomic reasons (those that cut birds from my life list and added birds such as Willow Flycatcher and Thayers Gull to the lists of those of you who were working on your fourth and fifth hundred birds) were all part of the thirty-second supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds. This covered changes in names accepted by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature since the publication of the 5th Edition of the Checklist in 1957.

The thirty-fourth supplement was published in the July 1982 issue of The AUK. This supplement, not as startling as the thirty-second, provides an updated list of species of birds recorded with appropriate documentation through December 1981 from Canada and the United States (including Hawaii) using the sequence, taxonomy, and English names of the forthcoming 6th Edition of the AOU Checklist. This 6th Edition is at the printers at this time and is to appear in 1983.

This list is probably the most comprehensive bird list to be compiled for part of the area now covered by the AOU. It's the latest in a vast series of lists that goes back at least 2700 years. In the 7th century B.C. the Assyrians developed a bird classification system based on habitat. Three hundred years later, Aristotle described over 170 bird species. Pliny the Elder, a Roman naturalist of the first century A.D., classified birds by foot structure. Fifteen centuries later, Europeans started arranging birds based on apparent similarities.

The system used today was developed in 1758 by Carl Von Linné, a Swedish Botanist who latinized the names of all the birds and plants in sight and even latinized his own name to Carolus Linnaeus. Following the pattern he established in 1753 when he published his Species Plantarum, which did much to revise and

reorganize botanical nomenclature by employing the binary system of naming plants, he set out to name not only all the plants but also the animals, including birds, using his two-name system. The scientific names he gave to the birds were meant to be descriptive, but in the course of time relationships unknown in Linnaeus' day have been discovered so that some of the names have become meaningless or misleading if considered literally. The Canons of the Code of the Nomenclature Committee of the AOU, originally promulgated in 1886, include a Canon that an original name must be kept even if it is glaringly false or misleading. Another original Canon of the Code required using a misspelled name for no other reason than it was misspelled in the beginning. Modifications have now been made in the Canons. Original names may be substituted for if found scientifically incorrect, and misspellings may be corrected if the misspelling resulted from a typographical error.

The binomial system of nomenclature for scientific names was first used by Linnaeus in his Species Planetarum in 1753. Five years later in the 10th Edition of his Systema Naturae, birds were so classified. This two-word system makes it possible for scientists, regardless of the language they use, to know the identity of any bird with which they are concerned. There is general acceptance of the system but there is often disagreement as to detail. The Common Loon on the AOU Checklist is Gavia immer (Brunnich) and on the Checklist of the British Ornithological Union it has appeared as Colymbus immer Brunnich, Great Northern Diver, Common Loon. Linnaeus' original genus name was Columbus. As this conflicted with the family name of Pigeons (Columbidae) the British used the family name Colymbidae for the Loons. The Americans scrapped the whole word rather than changing the one letter and used Forster's 1789 generic term for Loons, Gavia (and called the family Gaviidae).

There are, really, very definite, promulgated (and, incidentally, frequently revised) rules of nomenclature. Basically the scientific name that is to be used is the name provided by the first person to provide an acceptable identification of the bird as:

- 1) An identifiable published description; or
- 2) A recognizable published plate or figure; or
- 3) The original named type specimen.

Also "a name is only a name and has no necessary meaning." Changes can be made only if found to be scientifically inaccurate. The starting point for originality is, as said before, Linnaeus' 1758 Systema Naturae, the 10th Edition

Earlier, one definition of bird taxonomy was given as "Classification or the sorting of birds into orders, families, genera, species, and sub-species." This is done by analyzing and comparing feathers or plumage, studying a bird's anatomy and physiology, the place where it lives, its parasites, its foods, its courtship, and other patterns of behavior as well as its general geographic distributions and its relationship in the wild with other populations of birds. A good summarization and simplification of all that is given in Simpson's Principles of Animal Taxonomy. He says "the most possible evidence that a given individual belongs to a given species is the observation that it is living as a member of the specific population, especially if it is seen to breed with other members of that population." The breeding phase of taxonomic determination is not all that simple. Many species will breed with other species under certain circumstances. Much cross-breeding takes place in confined situations: zoos, farm yards, laboratories. But in nature species tend to breed among themselves.

Welty, in The Life of Birds, says, "the most important single criterion of a species relates to inter-breeding. If two birds mate and have offspring which are fertile when they in turn intermate, the original pair are likely to belong to the same species. But this is not an infallible rule, for sometimes distant relatives may have fertile offspring, and close relatives may not".

We can say that if two similar appearing birds, living in the same habitat in a like geographical area, eating the same types of foods, and building nests of the same materials, scratch the itches from similar types of parasitic insects, mate and have offspring, maybe, and only maybe, they are of the same species.

Welty rhetorically asks the question "How many different kinds of birds are there?" And says, "It depends on whom you ask." One authority will say that there are 25,000 species in the world, another 8,600 species. Taxonomists can be grouped into "species" too: the "splitters" who delight in classifying birds according to minute differences, and the "lumpers" who differentiate species on the basis of larger differences and thus tend to combine similar appearing species. Time has seen fluctuations over the years in the influence of the splitters and lumpers. In 1910 the complete list of the birds of the world recorded 19,000 species. In the next 32 years 8,000 additional types were discovered, described and named, but the total of all species had been reduced to about 8,500. In 1946 Mayr estimated there were 8,616 species and 28,500 sub-species of living birds in the world.

It may be that as the experts know more they find there are less species. As the knowledge of breeding patterns, minute skeletal similarities and highly technical analysis of blood tissue and egg proteins and infra-red spectrometry of various body fluids increases, there may be revealed closer evolutionary relationships in some avian species and species numbers may continue to decrease.

For instance, and again I quote from the 20 year old The Life of Birds, so the facts may have changed, "On the Aleutian Islands off Alaska there lives a large, dark-colored Song Sparrow that is about twice as large as the light-colored, desert-dwelling Song Sparrow of Southern Baja California. Had Linnaeus [or Audubon, or Wilson, or Bachman] held these two birds in his hands, he would undoubtedly have called them distinct species." And still quoting, "Today we know that in North America there are 31 closely intergrading types of Song Sparrows. These birds live as geographic populations along the Pacific Coast, each population only slightly different from its neighbors -- but the successive populations in between the extremes change gradually from large to small, from dark to light. Consequently, the 31 population types are not classed as species but as sub-species of one Song Sparrow."

But even in the early days of American Ornithology in the days of Wilson, Audubon and Bachman, they were aware of conspecificity. Alexander Wilson had seen a Red-eyed Towhee in Pennsylvania. In the south he had encountered what had appeared to be the same bird but with a white iris. At first, uncertain whether the northern and southern birds represented two distinct species, he speculated in American Ornithology that they were the same species -- that the color of the eye changed just as the plumage of some birds changed.

A friend of Wilson's, alert for any finding that might help Wilson, seemed to have confirmed this, for he had shot a Towhee with one red eye and one white eye. Though they were incorrect in surmising that the iris changed color

when the bird migrated, they were correct that they were both of the same species, Pipilo erythrophthalmus; but they were 2 geographic races, sub-species of the same bird. Wilson and John James Audubon were good friends. They would hunt together and discuss ornithology and probably traded a few sketches. Audubon, who was by far the better artist, was not always able to find every species he sought, so undoubtedly he copied a couple of Wilson's portraits.

In Wilson's sixth volume of American Ornithology, published in 1812, there had appeared what Wilson had named a "Small Headed Green Flycatcher." This bird reappeared in Audubon's fifth folio in 1838. George Ord, who was completing the ninth volume of American Ornithology after Wilson's death, insisted that Audubon had not seen the bird and drawn it from life or from a specimen but had copied Wilson's representation. Ord was probably right as what Wilson had taken for a new species and Audubon had accepted had probably been a color phase or stage of development of a Black-throated Green Warbler.

Even the best of us can be wrong!

Bibliography

1. *The Age of Birds* - Alan Feduccia
2. *Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds* - John K. Terres
3. *The Auk*
4. *Bird Study* - Andrew Berger
5. *The Dictionary of American Bird Names* - E. A. Choate
6. *First in the Field* - Robert Elman
7. *Key to North American Birds* - Elliott Coues
8. *The Life of Birds* - Welty
9. *Principles of Animal Taxonomy* - George Gaylord Simpson
10. *Procedures in Taxonomy* - E. T. Shank & J. H. McMasters
11. *Watching Birds (An Introduction to Ornithology)* - R. F. Pasquier
12. *Words for Birds* - Edward S. Gruson

* * * * *

BIRDS AND POETS

THE HERON

Theodore Roethke (1908-1963)

The heron stands in water where the swamp
Has deepened to the blackness of a pool,
Or balances with one leg on a hump
Of marsh grass heaped above a musk-rat hole.

He walks the shallow with an antic grace.
The great feet break the ridges of the sand,
The long eye notes the minnow's hiding place.
His beak is quicker than a human hand.

He jerks a frog across his bony lip,
Then points his heavy bill above the wood.
The wide wings flap but one to lift him up.
A single ripple starts from where he stood.

NOTES

Eaton's Birds of New York, extra copies available.

A set of Eaton's "Birds of New York" (1st Edition) and extra copies of Vol. 1 are for sale along with a wide variety of other natural history publications. For quotes send requests including specific titles to Doug Kibbe, Box 34, Maryland, New York 12116.

(Editor's Note: Doug's notice, received last week along with a request to print it, suggests a new Prothonotary feature: free classified ads. Limited to nature-related amateur individual or craftpersons' notices (no dealers please) this will be a way to swap, sell or find special used books, optical equipment or artwork with a nature theme. Feedback?)

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

January 12th: Dr. Charles Smith (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology),
Illusions of Bird Feeding.

January 26th: Marc J. Chelemer, Bowerbirds. Bowerbirds have been the subject of much literature lately. A series in Science News, and two articles in Nature are the present exposure of the speaker to these curious birds. A more in-depth investigation into their habits, behavior, taxonomy, etc. will be presented, along with a few dabbles into Darwin's sexual selection theories. Additionally, Bill Bogacki will report on the results of the Christmas Bird Count.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for 1983.

January 9th: January Waterfowl Count. If you are interested in working
(target date) on this count, call Dr. Allan Reckhow (876-0078).

January 23th: Niagara Loop Trip. Leader: Dr. Harold Axtell (416) 871-6999.
We will meet at the Vermont Street and Busti Avenue entrance to the Peace Bridge at 8:00 a.m., or at the parking lot on the River Road about 1/2 mile southwest of the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie, Ontario at 8:15 a.m.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

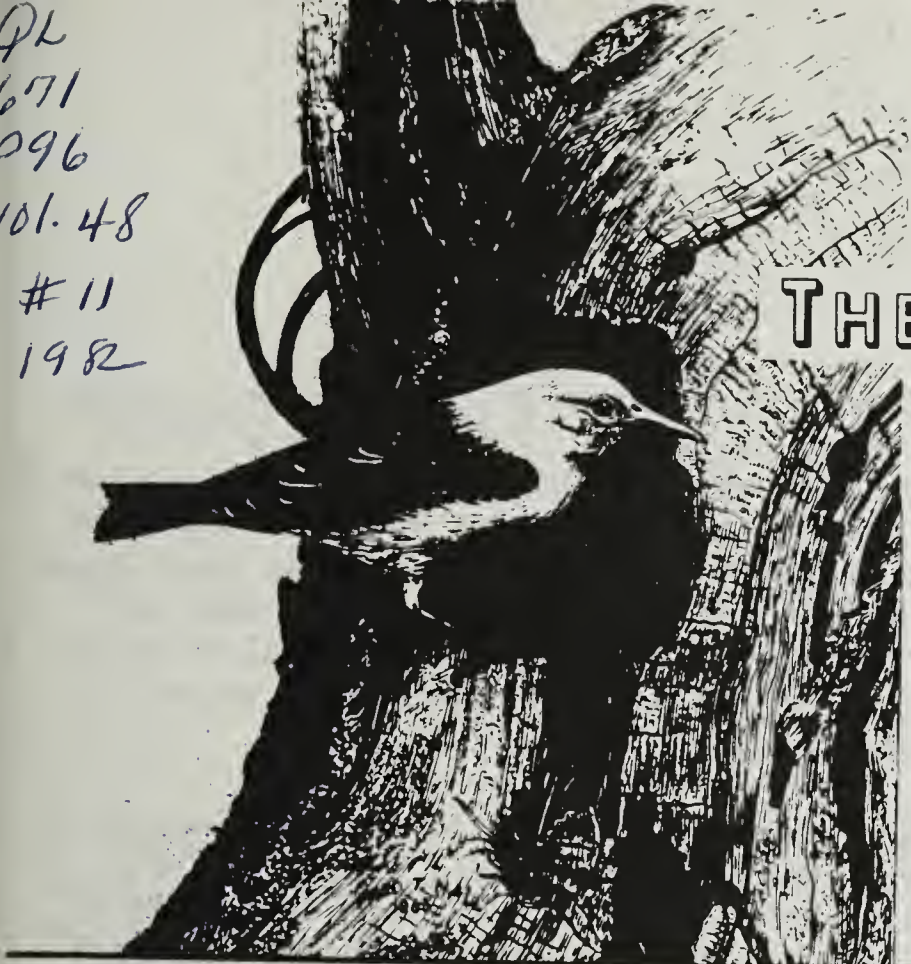
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of the Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

QL
671
P96
Vol. 48
#11
1982



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

LIBRARY
14853

VOLUME 48

NOVEMBER 1982

NUMBER 11

THE MONTH

October was warm and dry with unseasonably mild temperatures dominating the weather patterns most of the month. The first six days of October were sunny and warm with the high temperature for the month, 80° (F), recorded on the 6th. The first significant cold front of the autumn did not occur until October 15th and snow flurries in the higher elevations south of Buffalo were reported on the 16th when cold northwest winds brought a major movement of waterfowl and gulls into the Niagara Frontier. The only other major weather disturbance of the month was on the 20th when an intense storm moved across the lower Great Lakes accompanied by gale force winds and falling temperatures. Mild weather returned by October 24th and the area enjoyed a week of beautiful Indian Summer weather to end the month. The average temperature for the month was 52.6° (F), 1.1° above normal with precipitation measuring 2.06 inches, 0.95 inches below average. (Meteorological data as compiled at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The most interesting ornithological news in October occurred for the most part beyond the boundaries of our study area. On October 9th and 10th as many as 33 immature Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported on Lake Ontario at Hamilton (Ont.) Harbor; an additional five Kittiwakes were seen on Lake Ontario on the 9th and another five birds on the 10th at Rochester. Fritz Scheider reported a considerable flight of birds of this species at the Derby Hill lookout on Lake Ontario in Oswego County on this weekend. In addition, numbers of both Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers were seen in Lake Ontario near Hamilton on these dates. In contrast, only one sighting of a Black-legged Kittiwake was reported in our study area in October, that of an immature bird seen by Frances Rew at Dunkirk Harbor on the 22nd. Although there were several unconfirmed reports of Parasitic Jaegers on Lake Erie, generally it was a poor month for rarer larids. Other than a very early record of a second year Iceland Gull and a Glaucous Gull in Dunkirk Harbor on October 1st, no white-winged larids were reported. Only a few Little Gulls were seen although both Bonaparte's and Ring-billed Gulls came into the Niagara River and Lake Erie in good numbers with the advent of the cold front on October 16th. 16,000 Ring-billed Gulls were counted off of Point Gratiot near Dunkirk Harbor on Lake Erie on this date. The first Franklin's Gull of the season was not reported until October 3rd when a sub-adult bird was seen at Jaeger Rocks east of Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie.

Among the interesting birds recorded in October were 14 Double-crested Cormorants seen by Robert Andrle and his party on Mohawk Island during a field trip along the north shore of Lake Erie on the 3rd. On October 15th, 15 Cormorants were seen at Dunkirk Harbor. On October 9th, 22 Black-crowned Night Herons were seen on Squaw Island on the Niagara River at Buffalo. Three blue phase Snow Geese were reported at Rock Point Provincial Park in Sherbrooke Township, Ontario on October 3rd while John Morse saw a white phase bird at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on the 6th. There was an unconfirmed report of a White-fronted Goose at Langford Pond in the Town of Collins on October 24th.

Among the unusual and interesting reports received during the Society's October Bird Count on the 10th were several concerning an early influx of Tree Sparrows. Gary Novosel reported 50 in his territory in the Niagara Peninsula of Ontario and Bob and Lucille Leonard saw one bird of this species in Orchard Park and 17 in the Town of Hamburg. There was also a report of two Evening Grosbeaks on Rogers Road in the Town of Hamburg on October 1st.

The latest communique from Allegany County advises that on October 12th, Elizabeth Brooks saw a Common Raven in the vicinity of the parking lot of the ski-trail on N.Y. Route #244 and Stuck Hill Road in the Town of Alfred. On October 16th, a Northern Wheatear, a very rare accidental wanderer in these climes, was seen by a group of Canadian bird-watchers in the Niagara Gorge near the Whirlpool Rapids. It was briefly seen again on the 17th. Finally, the sight of a late Solitary Vireo at Queenston, Ontario on October 31st, enlivened an otherwise dull field trip down the Niagara River on that date for Bob Andrle and Bob Brock.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Oct.	24	4 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Red-necked Grebe	"	24	6 Lakeside	Andrle et al
	"	24	2 Shadigee	Andrle et al
Horned Grebe	"	24	15 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Pied-billed Grebe	"	6,25	3,10 Iroquois NWR	Morse
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	1,15	4,15 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	3	14 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Andrle et al
Great Blue Heron	"	6,25	28,16 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Green Heron	"	11 L	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Duncan
Great Egret	"	2,8	3,3 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	5	2 Tonawanda WMA	Danner
	"	12	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen

Volume 48, No. 11 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Canada Goose	Oct.	6	6104 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	8	455 over Alfred	Brooks
"	"	8	420 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	25	1352 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Snow Goose	"	6	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(white morph)	
"	"	27	3 Iroquois NWR	Prusa
			(2 blue, 1 white morph)	
Gadwall	"	6,25	31,11 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	15	6 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
Pintail	"	6,25	32,36 Iroquois NWR	Morse
American Wigeon	"	6,25	476,395 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Northern Shoveler	"	25	5 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Common Goldeneye	"	24 F	2 Town of Newfane	Andrle et al
Canvasback	"	24 F	50 SPA Reservoir	Cooper
"	"	30	500 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Greater Scaup	"	2 F	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Schaffner
"	"	24	2500 SPA Reservoir	Cooper
"	"	30	1000 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
"	"	31	5500 SPA Reservoir	Cooper
Oldsquaw	"	26	1 Alfred	Brooks
Ruddy Duck	"	24	5 SPA Reservoir	Cooper
"	"	25	5 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Hooded Merganser	"	6,25	19,42 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Common Merganser	"	31	5 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Turkey Vulture	"	6,25	52,3 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	28 L	1 Town of Charlotte	Thill, Welch
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	11	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	14	1 Belmont	Pitzrick
"	"	18	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	25	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Cooper's Hawk	"	10	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	18	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	16 F	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Thill
"	"	17	1 Cassadaga	Rew
"	"	29	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosche
Bald Eagle	"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Chandler
			(immature bird)	
"	"	23	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Prusa
			(immature bird)	
Osprey	"	3,10	1,1 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	10	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	14	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Wild Turkey	"	17	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
American Coot	"	6	131 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Semipalm. Plover	"	15 L	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Killdeer	"	6,25	77,33 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Spotted Sandpiper	"	14 L	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	O'Dell
Solitary Sandpiper	"	8 L	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Greater Yellowlegs	"	29	4 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	25 L	4 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Red Knot	"	11 L	3 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan

Pectoral Sandpiper	Oct.	3	12 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	6	24 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	24	15 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Dunlin	"	25	24 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Sanderling	"	11	120 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Ruddy Turnstone	"	8	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Franklin's Gull	"	3	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
Bonaparte's Gull	"	30	3750 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Schaffner
Little Gull	"	23	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle et al
Glaucous Gull	"	1	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Iceland Gull	"	1	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	22	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Common Tern	"	30	121 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
Black Tern	"	30	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Schaffner
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	24	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Andrle et al
Eastern Phoebe	"	22 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Tree Swallow	"	11 L	500 Dunnville, Ont.	Duncan
Rough-w. Swallow	"	16 L	1 Angola	O'Dell
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	8	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	10, 28	2, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	31	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
House Wren	"	1-8	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Winter Wren	"	9, 10, 16	3, 3, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	9-12	1 Town of Holland	Becker
"	"	23	1 Town of Colden	Schaffner, Clark
Mockingbird	"	19	1 Middleport	Krogs
Gray Catbird	"	25	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Brown Thrasher	"	3	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Hermit Thrush	"	30	2 Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	3-18 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	18	7 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	23	4 Town of Colden	Schaffner, Clark
"	"	31	7 Town of Holland	Becker
Solitary Vireo	"	31 L	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle, Brock
Nashville Warbler	"	14 L	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
Magnolia Warbler	"	8	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	6	41 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	15	12 Elma	Danner
Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	"	6	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Palm Warbler	"	21 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Common Yellowthroat	"	8	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Rusty Blackbird	"	16	12 East Aurora	Rosche
"	"	25-31	2-6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
House Finch	"	1-31	1-10 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	5, 7, 17	1, 6, 2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	6, 26	1, 1 Buffalo	Schaffner
"	"	10-31	1-4 Alfred	Brooks
Pine Siskin	"	17	1 Alfred	Brooks
Chipping Sparrow	"	1-14	1-6 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	6-14	1-10 Alfred	Brooks

White-cr. Sparrow	Oct.	1-31	1-2 Middleport	Krogs
	"	3-22	1-5 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	6-31	3-21 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Fox Sparrow	"	25,28,29	6,1,3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Swamp Sparrow	"	11	1 Alfred	Brooks
Snow Bunting	"	24 F	45 Town of Somerset	Andrle et al
	"	26	1 Alfred	Brooks

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 248

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue. (count) . 1

Total for year 249

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of Fall Bird Count

Date: October 10, 1982

Compiled by: Bill Townsend

Weather: Mostly sunny and breezy; High 60 - 65°F
Easterly wind, 15 to 20 mph.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. "F" or "L" after a species name indicates arrival or departure date for that species this season.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon - 1 (21)	Blue-winged Teal - 72
Red-necked Grebe - 3 (13)	American Wigeon - 168
Horned Grebe - 7 (3,13,19)	Northern Shoveler - 5 (10,15)
Pied-billed Grebe - 30	Wood Duck - 194
Great Blue Heron - 37	Redhead - 12 (9)
Green Heron - 6	Ring-necked Duck - 4 (5,10)
Bl.-cr. Night Heron - 19 (11)	Greater Scaup - 1,052 (2,19)
Amer. Bittern - 1 (27)	Lesser Scaup - 1,302 (1,3,23)
Canada Goose - 7,172	Bufflehead - 1 (1)
Mallard - 1,913	Oldsquaw - 5 (1,4)
Black Duck - 131	Ruddy Duck - 13 (3,5)
Gadwall - 26	Hooded Merganser - 5 (10)
Pintail - 37	Common Merganser - 23 (14,28)
Green-winged Teal - 64	Red-breasted Merganser - 4 (8)

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 103
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 17
Cooper's Hawk - 12
Red-tailed Hawk - 126
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2 (16,26)
Broad-winged Hawk - 4 (14,28)
Marsh Hawk - 27

Osprey - 9
American Kestrel - 54
Ruffed Grouse - 53
Ring-necked Pheasant - 32
Turkey - 48
Common Gallinule - 5 (20)
American Coot - 963

Shorebirds

Semipalmated Plover - 2 (8)
Killdeer - 779
Black-bellied Plover - 1 (2)
American Woodcock - 31
Common Snipe - 7 (5,15)
Spotted Sandpiper - 1 (1)
Greater Yellowlegs - 38

Lesser Yellowlegs - 13 (2,5,11)
Pectoral Sandpiper - 44
W.-rump Sandpiper - 2 (2)
Least Sandpiper - 7 (2,11)
Dunlin - 46 (5,11)
Semipalmated Sandpiper - 14 (2,5)
Sanderling - 7 (8)

Gulls - Flycatchers

Gr. Black-backed Gull - 80
Herring Gull - 1,316
Ring-billed Gull - 5,060
Bonaparte's Gull - 2,650
Common Tern - 422 (8,9,11)
Rock Dove - 2,478
Mourning Dove - 689
Screech Owl - 3 (13,28)
Great Horned Owl - 11
Barred Owl - 1 (14)
Common Nighthawk - 3 (11)

Ruby-thr. Hummingbird - 1 (12)
Belted Kingfisher - 61
Common Flicker - 95
Pileated Woodpecker - 7
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 9 (13,14,19)
Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 (3)
Yellow-b. Sapsucker - 9
Hairy Woodpecker - 66
Downy Woodpecker - 215
Eastern Phoebe - 32
Eastern Wood Pewee - 25

Larks - Thrushes

H. Lark (praticola) - 85 (1,13)
Tree Swallow - 444 (6,14,23)
Barn Swallow - 72 (6,16,23)
Blue Jay - 1,483
Common Crow - 3,917
Black-c. Chickadee - 1,563
Tufted Titmouse - 6 (14,28)
White-breasted Nuthatch - 240
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 35
Brown Creeper - 27
House Wren - 25

Winter Wren - 15
Carolina Wren - 1 (21)
Mockingbird - 5 (1,2,28)
Gray Catbird - 46
Brown Thrasher - 1 (11)
American Robin - 4,105
Wood Thrush - 3 (5,13,14)
Hermit Thrush - 13
Swainson's Thrush - 12
Eastern Bluebird - 102

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Golden-cr. Kinglet - 187	Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler - 8 (4,14,19) L
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 96	Yellow-rumped Warbler - 984
Water Pipit - 392	Bl.-thr. Green Warbler - 1 (4) L
Cedar Waxwing - 1,468	Blackburnian Warbler - 3 (14,26) L
Starling - 30,366	Chestnut-s. Warbler - 2 (13) L
Solitary Vireo - 6	Bay-breasted Warbler - 1 (20) L
Red-eyed Vireo - 7	Pine Warbler - 1 (24) L
Bl.-and-wh. Warbler - 3 (11,13,14) L	Palm Warbler - 3 (10,20)
Orange-cr. Warbler - 2 (13,14)	Common Yellowthroat - 3 (4,19)
Nashville Warbler - 4 (4,14,23)	American Redstart - 2 (14,24) L
Magnolia Warbler - 2 (20,28) L	House Sparrow - 3,130
Cape May Warbler - 1 (20) L	

Blackbirds - Finches

Eastern Meadowlark - 73	Savannah Sparrow - 38
Red-w. Blackbird - 8,434	Vesper Sparrow - 23
Rusty Blackbird - 115	Dark-eyed Junco - 547
Common Grackle - 6,402	Tree Sparrow - 51 (1,14)
Brown-headed Cowbird - 1,705	Chipping Sparrow - 268
Cardinal - 250	Field Sparrow - 153
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 5	White-crowned Sparrow - 119
Evening Grosbeak - 3 (28)	White-throated Sparrow - 1,063
Purple Finch - 66	Lincoln's Sparrow - 1 (13)
House Finch - 275	Swamp Sparrow - 44
Pine Siskin - 9 (14,19,28)	Song Sparrow - 851
American Goldfinch - 1,171	Lapland Longspur - 1 (12)
Rufous-sided Towhee - 48	

Total Species: 147

Total Individuals: 99,432

Comments: The following species numbers were low compared to the last 10 years: Common Loon (1), Pied-billed Grebe (30), Greater Scaup (1,052), Red-breasted Merganser (4), Red-tailed Hawk (126), Red-shouldered Hawk (2), American Kestrel (54), Black-bellied Plover (1), Sanderling (7), Common Flicker (95), Red-headed Woodpecker (1), Hermit Thrush (13), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (96), Cape May Warbler (1), Common Yellowthroat (3), Eastern Meadowlark (73), Rusty Blackbird (115), Dark-eyed Junco (547), White-crowned Sparrow (119), White-throated Sparrow (1,063), Lincoln's Sparrow (1), and Song Sparrow (851).

The following species numbers were high compared to the last 10 years: Red-necked Grebe (3), Black-crowned Night Heron (19), Turkey Vulture (103), Sharp-shinned Hawk (17), Osprey (9), Killdeer (779), American Woodcock (31), Pectoral Sandpiper (44), Eastern Wood Pewee (25), Tree Swallow (444), Barn Swallow (72), Common Crow (3,917), House Wren (25), Cedar Waxwing (1,468), and Solitary Vireo (6).

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

Comments: Early Tree Sparrows were observed outside the 1976 date guide and (cont.) received the proper verification.

Sections and Observers: Many thanks are given to the section compilers and observers who combined to make this October Count a success. In the listing that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

1. Fonthill, Ont. Gary Novosel
2. Thorold, Ont. Jerry Chapple
3. Wilson, N.Y. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, David Cooper.
4. Middleport, N.Y. Bob Brock, Jim Fish.
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. Dick & Peggy Christensen, John Morse, Marion Smith.
6. Port Maitland, Ont. Bill Townsend
7. Lowbanks, Ont. No report received.
8. Fort Erie, Ont. Dick Byron
9. Grand Island, N.Y. Karen Renning, John & Marge Wright.
10. Akron, N.Y. Robert Wagner
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Mike Zebehazy
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Ima Bill, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Raymond Franz, Tom Harper, Gertrude Webster, Cy Wolfling.
13. Batavia, N.Y. Max & Jane Mason, David Keller, George Mahaney, Elva Hawken, Marge Pixley, Eileen & Robert Hull.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Barbara Walker, Erma Kun, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Brandes, Doctor & Mrs. Robert Leonard, Dave Bigelow, Mary Saville, Marian Dornhaffer, Wilma Csont, Mr. & Mrs. Miles Fiery, Thelma Pickett, Bernice Reinhart, Lynn Rochester, Myles Firey, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Herbst, Grace O'Dell.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Art & Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y. Frances M. Rew, Lois I. Bush.

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Audrey Horbett, Wavel & Maxine Barber, Carolyn Frank, Ruth Helstrom, Rae Uhl.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Alleghany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Gen & Les Fish, Josephine Main, Marjorie Main, Helen Morse, Melissa Mills, Katherine Palmer, Jean Perry, Ruth Richardson, Marion & Emmette Smith, Bette Hill, Robin McMaster, Joan Schlicht, Alice Evans, Larry Wilson, Faye Clancy.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. The Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Paul Baglia, Jim Bowser, Nancy Bowser, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flary, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Morgan Jones, Judy Kumler, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Lucille Neveu, Aristine Richardson, Bev Ruska, John Ruska, Tom Welch, Lousie Wood, Jane Woods.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Daniel Cordosi, David Gogne, Julie Heilman, Lewis Kibler, Dorothy Philblad, Carol Roby, Carol Wagner, Marion Werner, Pauline Woll.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Not covered.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Daniel Cordosi, David Gogne, Stephen Maggio, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pegman, Thomas Simmions, Sr., Thomas Simmions, Jr.
24. Allegany S.P., N.Y. Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Charles & Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Lucille Bordonaro, Fred Meyer.
25. Allegany, N.Y. No report received.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Alleghany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Mary Jordan, Ann & Morris Scott, Sharon Boumgurelner, Betty & John Compton.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Alleghany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Celestia K. Abbott, Doris Hureburt, Marjorie Richmond, Lillian & Stella Simons, Helen K. Apsey, Helen Link.

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

28. Alfred, N.Y. Alleghany County Bird Club, Larry Chapman, Russell Allen, Dorothy & Warren Bouck, Elizabeth Brooks, Lois Chapman, Larry & Harriet Deverell, Ann & Janice Eisenhardt, Terry & Peter Finlay, Eva Ford, Barbara Keough, Clarence Klingensmith, Ellen & Donald Lamb, Cathy MacDonald, Beverly Perry, Peggy, Danny & Jerry Rose, Suzanne Wood.
- Dorothy Baylers, Fred Baylers, Esther Biehl, Don, Lorna, Sonja & Tara Brink, Vivien Brownell, Susan & James Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Fay & Ben Heller, Viola Ide, Linn Phelan, Pauline Sanford, Viola Sharrett, Allen & Gladys Witter.
- Ben Common, Kathy & Tom Kent, Bill Walker.
- Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford Button, Roberta Clark, Raymond Pitzrick.
- Vera Brown, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Robert & Claribel James, Martin & Genevieve McQueen, Ernest & Lynn Rosityke, Theodore & Lorena Vossler.
- Erma Larson, Harold Babcock, Mrs. Ira Brown, Betty & Carl Burdick, Helen Graves, Evelyn Oppenheim, Ruth Smith, Mrs. Bruce Toggers, Mrs. Gordon Toggart.

Total Observers: 238

31 Brenon Road, N. Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of October 13, 1982

The meeting was opened by Vice-President Wavel Barber. Two sets of Secretary's Reports and the Treasurer's Report were read and approved.

Business: Robert Brock announced the availability of the sixth Breeding Bird Atlas Project Newsletter. The Librarian, Marie Wendling, mentioned that the March and July 1981 issues of American Birds are missing in action -- no name, no penalty. From the Programs Committee came mention of an attempt to secure a speaker from the State Power Authority to come and discuss planned expansions of their hydroelectric facility in Lewiston. A new birding organization, the Ontario Field Ornithologists, is forming; initial meeting will be held in Burlington (November 14 & 15).

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING OF October 13, 1982 cont.

The Nominating Committee submitted the names of nominees for office.

Program: Harriette and Walter Klabunde reported on the recent annual meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, held on Long Island. Various workshops and research paper presentations were recounted, as was a talk by the keynote dinner speaker, Dennis Puleston, on seabirds.

Also, David Cooper gave a detailed presentation on interactions between birds and aircraft. He cited statistics regarding the frequency and severity of such collisions, and noted the great variety of species involved. Several case histories were described. Practices employed to minimize bird flocks at airports were reviewed.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Field Trip to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge
and Oak Orchard Game Management Area

October 24, 1982

On this trip we saw both color phases of the Snow Goose, a Fox Sparrow, side by side a Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, a Red-shouldered Hawk, Solitary, Pectoral, Spotted, Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers, Dunlins, Common Snipes, a Red-bellied Woodpecker, Rusty Blackbirds and many more species.

John Morse again led us into the interior of the refuge, perhaps for the last time. John is hoping to retire next year to New Hampshire. If he goes we will miss him greatly.

A quick pass through the new state area on Tillman Road confirmed the mysterious draining of the swamp as widely reported in the press.

Waterfowl were still abundant at the refuge. Large numbers of Canada Geese, Mallards, Black Ducks, American Wigeons, and Pintails along with lesser numbers of Gadwall, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks, Wood Ducks, and Hooded Mergansers still remained. Nine Turkey Vultures were counted. For many of us a good spot for viewing shorebirds was discovered for the first time along the flats at Long Marsh off Roberts Road near Knowlesville Road. It was a trip on an extremely splendid sunny day.

Dick Christensen

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of October 27, 1982

This, the 919th meeting of the Society, was this year's Annual Meeting, featuring detailed Committee reports and the selection of officers for the next year. The meeting was opened by Vice-President Wavel Barber.

The Secretary's report was approved as read.

The Treasurer, Peggy Daniels, read both the annual and the monthly reports, which were approved. She reported that the dues will remain the same with the General Fund receiving \$4 and the Prothonotary \$6 from an individual member's dues. From a Family membership, \$8 goes to the General Fund and \$8 to the Prothonotary Fund. Dues are now due. Peggy was commended, and all present applauded agreement, for the outstanding job she's done during her several years as Treasurer.

The Membership Committee proposed Paul Hess and Merle Malone, who were approved for associate memberships. The annual report from this committee states we have 184 active memberships.

The Research Committee mentioned that the survey of March wintering birds and the monitoring of the Hawk migration, among other endeavors, will continue.

From the Refuge Committee came an appeal for advice on how to keep the paths clear of obstructive vegetation. For future consideration a clean-up day is proposed.

From the Nominating Committee:

Honorary President	Harold Mitchell
President	Wavel Barber
Vice-President	Robert Brock
Recording Secretary & Corresponding Secretary	Karen Renning
Treasurer	William Townsend
Librarian and Records Custodian	Marie Wendling
Council for 3-year terms	William Burch
	Frances Rew
	Walter Klabunde

The Secretary cast one ballot for the slate of officers.

Other Business: Ms. Burke, a local science teacher, says her class is studying animals, especially birds, and she may request help from the B.O.S. It was suggested that we invite her class to some particularly appropriate program and/or field trips.

The Buffalo Audubon Society has invited B.O.S. members to attend their programs.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of October 27, 1982 cont.

Program: William Townsend reported on the results of the October Bird Count. Also, Robert Andrie and Robert Brock presented a report on the 3rd year of the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project. We learned of rarities uncovered and range expansions being noted and new computerized mapping techniques that are already revealing distributional patterns. Through the use of projected transparent overlays, the Region 1 coverage situation, accomplishments and challenges, was elucidated.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FNYSBC ANNUAL MEETING (1-3 October)

by Walter Klabunde

The meeting followed the normal format of delegates meeting (Friday afternoon and Saturday morning), three one-hour symposiums (Friday evening), a three-hour papers session (Saturday afternoon) and dinner (Saturday) with an after dinner speaker. Field trips were available each day and all day Sunday.

The Breeding Bird Atlas project was thoroughly covered in each part of the program. Total area coverage is to be stressed to all blank blocks in the State. Blockbusting techniques which can be utilized were described as well as ways to look for species fitting the various habitats encountered. One symposium was devoted to the latter.

Of primary importance to all birders and conservationists was the report on the Eckert Bill which was passed, which makes it possible for all N.Y. taxpayers to support the Conservation Fund. When you make out your 1982 New York State income tax return you can contribute to this fund either by signifying on the proper line the amount you wish to contribute or, if you have a refund coming, by deleting the amount you wish to contribute. Among other things, the fund is to support habitat protection, including studies of toxins significant to wildlife; staff in N.Y.C. for monitoring the exportation and trade of animal and plant materials of endangered species; and species management including the Breeding Bird Atlas project, marine mammal stranding assistance, and endangered species protection including hacking of Bald Eagles. It is estimated that 1 to 2 million dollars will be gained from this source in 1983 with a gradual buildup in later years to 5 to 10 million. Your contribution is tax deductible in the following year.

4923 Creek Road, Lewiston, New York

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT -- 1982-1983

As I had hoped and mentioned in my report to you in my summary of 1980 and 1981 atlas surveying, 1982 was a fine year of accomplishments in our project. To date we have worked in over 400 of the 630 blocks in Region 1. This includes at least 130 new blocks and at least 145 that were given additional coverage. When the computer printouts are received for 1982, we will know better which of those blocks given additional coverage need more surveying. Only 21 of the 49 blocks with 25 or less species tallied and only 64 of the 96 blocks with 50 or less species received additional coverage in 1982. This shows that we need more upgrading in those categories. Areas of uncovered blocks on our Region 1 map show that we must also concentrate on surveying new blocks as well.

It has become evident that general goals statewide of at least 76 species and 38 confirmed in a block are not possible for some because of habitat types present and location. A report on a "blockbusting" (intensive covering of unsurveyed blocks) effort in 1982 by two observers working for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation supported this conclusion, and also graphically showed that after eight hours of surveying in a block, the number of new species found in all categories (possible, probable, and confirmed) rapidly "bottomed out". So after eight to 12 hours work in a block, additional survey time is better spent in a new block. Of course, this blockbusting effort involved intensive, all-out work, capabilities of observers vary, as do their methods, and proportions of and kinds of habitats in some blocks differ considerably. However, I think that this is a pretty good indication of the time required to cover blocks effectively.

I would like to mention that limited funds are available for certain expenses from the Buffalo Ornithological Society to support "blockbusting" in Region 1. Use of these funds is governed by specific criteria and effective blockbusting requires a good knowledge of bird identification by sight and sound. In 1982 some of this type of atlasing was carried out by a few persons. Traveling some distances may also be necessary. Areas of uncovered blocks in Region 1 are in some locations fairly extensive. At present uncovered blocks number 71 in Chautauqua County, 65 in Cattaraugus, 49 in Erie, Genesee and Wyoming, 17 in Niagara and Orleans, and 26 in Allegany. I would be interested in hearing from observers who would be able to carry out this type of surveying in 1983.

We have obtained a set of computer maps showing Possible, Probable, and Confirmed records for all breeding bird species statewide for work done in 1980 and 1981. Distribution patterns are emerging on these maps and we are beginning to see in more detail the distribution of certain species both in the entire state and in our region. The interesting extent of expansions of the Wild Turkey, Acadian Flycatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Prairie Warbler, House Finch and White-throated Sparrow into Region 1 are graphically illustrated, as are the special distribution patterns of such species as the Red-bellied Woodpecker, Cliff Swallow, Mockingbird, Swainson's Thrush, Golden and Blue-winged Warblers, and Louisiana Waterthrush.

Breeding Bird Atlas Project -- 1982-1983 cont.

As soon as computer printouts become available, I will send them to all active participants who surveyed in 1982. Included will be atlas materials - cards, report forms, maps where appropriate, and checklists. If you need additional materials, please contact me. I especially would like those who can to survey uncovered blocks adjacent to those they have worked in. I will let those persons know who have such blocks nearby. Remember, each year you need only include on report forms species new to a block and those upgraded to a higher breeding category.

My thanks to all of you who have joined in this project and done such excellent work. I particularly wish to express my appreciation to those club representatives who have greatly assisted me in distributing materials, collecting reports, and assembling and summarizing data. Region 1 is doing very well compared to others in the state, and this is owing to your fine efforts in a cooperative and worthwhile project that is of both educational and scientific benefit to us all.

Robert F. Andrie
Coordinator, Region 1

BIRDS AND POETS

ALL MORNING

Theodore Roethke (1908-1963)

Here in our aging district the wood pigeon lives with us,
His deep-throated cooing part of the early morning,
Far away, close-at-hand, his call floating over the on-coming traffic,
The lugubriously beautiful plaint uttered at regular intervals,
A protest from the past, a reminder.

They sit, three or four, high in the fir-trees back of the house,
Flapping away heavily when a car blasts too close,
And one drops down to the garden, the high rhododendron,
Only to fly over to his favorite perch, the cross-bar of a telephone pole;
Grave, hieratic, a piece of Assyrian sculpture,
A thing carved of stone or wood, with the dull iridescence of long-
polished wood,
Looking at you without turning his small head,
With a round vireo's eye, quiet and contained,
Part of the landscape.

And the Steller jay, raucous, sooty headed, lives with us,
Conducting his long wars with the neighborhood cats,
All during mating season,
Making a racket to wake the dead,
To distract attention from the short-tailed ridiculous young ones
Hiding deep in the blackberry bushes--
What a scuttling and rapping along the drainpipes,
A fury of jays, diving and squawking,
When our spayed female cat yawns and stretches out in the sunshine--
And the wrens scold, and the chickadees frisk and frolic,
Pitching lightly over the high hedgerows, dee-deeing,
And the ducks near Lake Washington waddle down the highway after
a rain,
Stopping traffic, indignant as addled old ladies,
Pecking at crusts and peanuts, their green necks glittering;
And the hummingbird dips in and around the quince tree,
Veering close to my head,
Then whirring off sideways to the top of the hawthorn,
Its almost-invisible wings, buzzing, hitting the loose leaves
intermittently--
A delirium of birds!
Peripheral dippers come to rest on the short grass,
Their heads jod-jodding like pigeons;
The gulls, the gulls far from their waves
Rising, wheeling away with harsh cries,
Coming down on a patch of lawn:

It is neither spring nor summer: it is Always,
With towhees, finches, chickadees, California quail, wood doves,
With wrens, sparrows, juncos, cedar waxwings, flickers,
With Baltimore orioles, Michigan bobolinks,
And those birds forever dead,
The passenger pigeon, the great auk, the Carolina paraquet,
All birds remembered, O never forgotten!
All in my yard, of a perpetual Sunday,
All morning! All morning!

NOTES

Saw-whet Owl Color-marking

The Toronto Bird Observatory is co-ordinating a Saw-whet Owl color-marking project in the fall of 1982.

Owls trapped at Toronto and Long Point (on Lake Erie) will be marked with an orange-colored dye marker on the white feathers located on the face between the eyes.

The purpose of this project is to enhance the rate of return of previously trapped birds by means of visual reports from casual field observers.

Saw-whet Owl Color-marking cont.

Please note that anyone encountering a color-marked bird should report it to:

The Canadian Bird Banding Office
Canadian Wildlife Service
Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1A 0E7

Hawk Migration Conference IV

The Hawk Migration Association of North America is pleased to announce Hawk Migration Conference IV: Hawkwatching Beyond the Numbers, Rochester, N.Y., March 24-27, 1983.

Program: There will be an evening session on the 24th for early arrivals. This includes a highly-acclaimed film on hang-gliding with hawks as well as a presentation on the eagle-hacking at Oak Orchard National Wildlife Refuge.

On Friday and Saturday there will be four paper sessions:

- o Weather, geography and migration
- o Studying the migration of individual species
- o Collecting and using numbers
- o New approaches and alternative techniques

Among the confirmed paper-presenters are K. Able, S. Gauthreaux, W. S. Clark, S. Benz, E. Shelley, N. Currie, M. Harwood, D. Klem, J. Ruos, T. Holtzheisen, L. Robinson, C. Sutton, M. Fuller, P. Dunne, P. Kerlinger, T. Leckey, and others. It is the aim of the program-planning committee that Conference IV create new baselines for hawk-migration research. A Proceedings will be published.

The program will also include another session on "Sticky Problems of Hawk Identification", which was a particularly successful segment of Hawk Conference I at Syracuse in 1974. It will be led by William Clark and Peter Dunne.

The guest speaker at the Saturday night banquet will be Yossi Leshem of the Israel Raptor Information Center, who will describe raptor migrations in Israel. On Sunday, weather cooperating, there will be a field trip to the Braddock Bay hawkwatch. (The end of March is the peak period for the Red-shouldered Hawk migration at the Braddock Bay lookout near Rochester.)

Hawk Migration Conference IV cont.

Accommodations: The conference will be held at the Rochester Marriott Airport Hotel, 1980 Ridge Road West - seven minutes by Marriott limousine from the airport. Rochester is also served by buses and trains. These let passengers off a considerable distance from the hotel, but the host committee will run a shuttle service, as needed, from the stations to the hotel.

The prices for accommodations at the Marriott are \$48.00 per night, single occupancy, and \$52.00 per night for a room occupied by 2-4 persons. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel before February 25, 1983. There are a few other suitable motels in the area, about which information will be supplied upon request.

At the Marriott Hotel registration for Conference IV will start at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, and the Conference registration desk will be open until 11 p.m. Thursday and all day Friday and Saturday. The formal Conference will convene at 8:30 a.m. on Friday. The paper sessions will be held mornings and afternoons Friday and Saturday. The workshop on hawk identification will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday.

Buffalo Audubon Society Upcoming Program

The Buffalo Audubon Society has extended a special invitation to B.O.S. members to the following program. Their meetings (open to everyone) are held at the Buffalo Museum of Science on the 1st Wednesday of the month beginning at 7:30 p.m.

"Feeding Birds". Wednesday, February 2, 1983 - 7:30 p.m. This slide program is presented by Dr. Stephen Kress, the Director of Public Education from Cornell's School of Ornithology. This program was sponsored with the support of AGWAY.

B.O.S. Count Dates Set

The following dates have been established for B.O.S. bird counts in 1983:

April Count - 4/10/83

May Count - 5/15/83

October Count - 10/9/83

Eaton's Birds of New York, extra copies available.

A set of Eaton's "Birds of New York" (1st Edition) and extra copies of Vol. 1 are for sale along with a wide variety of other natural history publications. For quotes send requests including specific titles to Doug Kibbe, Box 34, Maryland, New York 12116.

(Editor's Note: Doug's notice, received last month along with a request to print it, suggests a new Prothonotary feature: free classified ads. Limited to nature-related amateur individual or craftpersons notices (no dealers, please) this will be a way to swap, sell or find special used books, optical equipment or artwork with a nature theme. Feedback?)

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- February 9th: Arthur R. Clark, Clark's Nutcracker. Fun and games with bird skins, mounts and other paraphernalia as all are challenged in bird identification skills.
- February 23rd: Frances M. Rew and Robert F. Andrie, The Work of the Statisticians. B.O.S. Statisticians will talk about the purposes and procedures in preparing and authenticating the Verification Form for Unusual Records; and what constitutes a "noteworthy record" and how to report it.
- March 9th: Walter and Harriette Klabunde, Census and Survey Awareness. A description and discussion of B.O.S. count and survey activities.

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

The following field trips have been scheduled for early this year.

- February 20th: Ontario Plains Trip. Leaders: Walter and Harriette Klabunde (754-4424). We will meet in the parking lot of Tops Market in the Village of Lewiston at 8:30 a.m.

March 6th: Canadian Owl Trip. Leader: Blaine Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at Vermont Street and Busti Avenue, near the Peace Bridge, at 8:00 a.m. or at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on River Road in Fort Erie at 8:15 a.m. We will meet Blaine at Silver Bay Road, Port Colborne, Ontario at 9:00 a.m.

March 27th: Iroquois - Oak Orchard Trip. Leader: John Morse (948-5455). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza, or 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Robert Andrie, Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing),
Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

HAWK MIGRATION CONFERENCE IV, ROCHESTER, NY, MARCH 24-27, 1983

REGISTRATION FEE

Registration Plus Meals --

Friday lunch, Friday dinner - Saturday lunch, Saturday banquet.

Before February 15. \$60.00
After February 15 \$65.00

Registration only --

Before February 15. \$10.00
After February 15 \$15.00

Saturday banquet only --

If registered \$20.00
If unregistered \$25.00

ENCLOSED IS A CHECK (PAYABLE TO WILLIAM COLSMAN, TREASURER)
OR MONEY ORDER FOR \$ _____

1) FOR WHOM ARE YOU MAKING RESERVATIONS (OTHER THAN YOURSELF)?

2) CIRCLE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO ROCHESTER: AUTO, BUS, TRAIN, AIR.
TIME OF ARRIVAL _____. WILL YOU NEED TO BE MET? _____.

AMTRAK _____ GREYHOUND _____ TRAILWAYS _____

THE MARRIOTT HAS A LIMOUSINE SERVICE FROM THE AIRPORT.

3) IF YOU'RE PRE-REGISTERING FOR MEALS, PLEASE SPECIFY - BY CIRCLING WORD -
WHETHER YOU WISH MEAT OR FISH FOR FRIDAY DINNER.

4) DO YOU PLAN TO GO ON THE SUNDAY HAWK LOOKOUT FIELD TRIP? _____
WILL YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION? _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR REMITTANCE TO: MRS. LAURA MOON, 25 EDGEWATER LANE,
ROCHESTER, NY, 14617. PHONE (716) 342-2590. Address all inquiries to Laura Moon
or Mrs. Mary Ann Sunderlin, 505 Bay Road, Webster, NY, 14580. Phone (716) 671-2210.

Cancellations after March 15 are subject to forfeiture of registration fee.

Reservations for rooms should be made directly with the Rochester Marriott Airport
Hotel, 1890 West Ridge Road, Rochester, NY, 14615. Telephone: (716) 225-6880.

Single: \$48.00/night. Double, Triple or Quadruple: \$52.00/night/room.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

1 25 1982

VOLUME 48

DECEMBER 1982

NUMBER 12

THE MONTH

November was cloudy, wet and warm. The month began on a summer-like note with a high temperature for the period of 71° (F) recorded on November 2nd. A cold front two days later precipitated the first heavy snowfall of the season in Buffalo and the snow belt on the south shore of Lake Erie with a record 12.3 inches accumulating at the Greater Buffalo International Airport during heavy squalls on the 5th. Mild weather soon returned however, completely melting the snow cover by November 8th. A second cold front on November 12th brought more snow flurries to Buffalo and heavy squalls south of the city with a big influx of waterfowl, gulls and fringillids. Again the taste of winter was short-lived with above average temperatures returning by the 15th. A third cold front over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend was also followed by cloudy, warm weather to end the month. The average temperature for November was 43.0° (F), 3.2° above normal for the period with precipitation measuring 6.31 inches, 2.57 inches above average. Only 21% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

November was an exciting month for area bird-watchers. The ornithological event of the year occurred on November 27th when an immature Razorbill was seen at the mouth of the Niagara River between Niagara-on-the-Lake in Ontario and Fort Niagara State Park. The bird was discovered by Bruce Duncan and Kevin McLaughlin, Ontario bird-watchers who first saw it swimming in the swift current at the mouth of the river approximately 1,000 feet from the parking area at Niagara-on-the-Lake where they were standing. Their immediate impression was of a black and white alcid with the diagnostic pointed tail, fine white line along the trailing edge of the secondaries, short neck and the laterally compressed bill from whence this auk derives its vernacular name -- Razorbill. As the bird was under observation for some forty-five minutes on both sides of the International Boundary before flying out on Lake Ontario, it apparently represents only the second verified inland record for New York State and the first for the Niagara Frontier. John Bull, in his Birds of New York State (1974) relates how

an immature Razorbill was captured alive but in a weakened condition in a drainage ditch near the Mountezuma Wildlife Refuge in Seneca County on November 5th, 1972; the bird subsequently expired. Razorbills have been seen on Lake Ontario, both at Hamilton and Toronto prior to Duncan and McLaughlin's discovery at Niagara-on-the-Lake. Bruce Duncan had previously become acquainted with this species while visiting New Brunswick and Grand Manan Island in 1981 and saw many Razorbills on the Atlantic Ocean.

Also seen at Niagara-on-the-Lake on this memorable date was a Red Phalarope, a Red-throated Loon and an immature male King Eider, any one of which birds would ordinarily make the day for the most sophisticated bird-watcher.

Among the interesting records received in November were an unusual number of records of Common Loons among the waterfowl on Lake Erie and Chautauqua Lake following the cold front on November 12th-13th. Frances Rew led a B.O.S. field trip to Chautauqua County on the 14th during which 22 Common Loons were observed in Dunkirk Harbor with an additional 12 at Point Gratiot and one at Barcelona, all on Lake Erie and seven Loons on Chautauqua Lake. For the fifth consecutive winter, an adult male Barrow's Goldeneye made its appearance in a water impoundment and the upper rapids of the Niagara River near Dufferin Island at Niagara Falls, Ontario where, as in previous years, it was in the company of several score of Common Goldeneye. "The Barrow's" was first seen on November 14th. The only records of Brant this autumn were from Lake Erie and Chautauqua Lake although the traditional migration route for this goose in our study area is Lake Ontario. Fran Rew and Lois Buck saw 32 flying over Dunkirk Harbor on November 5th and 23 Brant were reported on Chautauqua Lake on November 6th. Terry Mosher saw an additional four in Dunkirk Harbor on the 13th.

Dave Freeland observed an immature Cattle Egret in a farm field adjacent to the N.Y. State Thruway in the Town of Newstead on November 24th. John Morse reported a late immature Turkey Vulture perched in a dead tree on the edge of a feeder canal in the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on November 16th. On November 17th, the remains of a large hawk were recovered on a runway of the Greater Buffalo International Airport. The bird came to grief when it struck a DC-6 cargo transport in flight. It was turned over to Arthur Clark who identified it as a dark-phase Gyrfalcon and brought the specimen back to the Buffalo Museum of Science. It is only the third verified record of a feral Gyrfalcon in our study area, excluding of course the magnificent white-phase bird which thrilled many of us during the winter of 1980-81 and had some unfortunate falconer's jesses dangling from its right foot.

Yet another report of Wild Turkey at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in November. John Morse reported a flock of five birds seen by archers hunting deer on November 5th.

November is the month when the biggest influx of gulls into our study area occurs and the Niagara River, both above and below the falls, was the scene of most activity. This month, however, observers reported fewer white-winged gulls and other rarer larids than we usually anticipate. The weekend of November 13th-14th appears to have been the most productive in this regard when nine species

of gulls were reported at Niagara Falls, including a Black-headed Gull seen by Bob Klips on the 14th flying over the turbulent waters of the upper Niagara River near the Horseshoe Falls in the company of hundreds of Bonaparte's Gulls. This bird was in typical non-breeding or "winter" plumage with the diagnostic red bill tip and black undersides of the primary wing tips clearly seen. On November 24th, a second Black-headed Gull in non-breeding plumage was seen by Klips in the Niagara River between Squaw Island and the Rich Marina in Buffalo, also in the company of about 1,000 Bonaparte's Gulls. Although a Black-legged Kittiwake was reported at Times Beach in Buffalo Harbor on November 6th, the only formal record was received from Bob Klips who found the remains of an immature specimen on the Lake Erie shore at Erie Beach, Ontario on November 11th. The bird was in an eviscerated condition but the plumage, bill and legs were still recognizable. There was also an unconfirmed report of a Lesser Black-backed Gull in the Niagara Gorge on November 14th. The only Forster's Tern of the fall migration was a bird seen by Frances Rew sitting on a rock near the breakwall in Dunkirk Harbor on November 19th.

The first Snowy Owl of the season was reported on November 30th. It was perched on the roof of a house on Jersey Street in Buffalo where Art Clark was summoned from his duties at the Science Museum to confirm identification. The bird gained a degree of notoriety when it was pictured atop the house in The Buffalo News on the following day.

Clarence Klingensmith of Alfred reported a very late Rose-breasted Grosbeak visiting a feeder in his yard between November 14th and November 22nd. It appeared to be an adult male in changing plumage as the upper breast below the bird's white throat was tinged with red. There was no significant movement of winter finches into the Niagara Frontier in November although Elizabeth Brooks reports a sizeable increase in the numbers of Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos in the wake of the cold front on November 12th.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Volume 48, No. 12 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Loon	Nov.	9	1 Bear Lake	Mosher
	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	14	1 Barcelona	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	14	12 Point Gratiot	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	14	22 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	14	7 Chautauqua Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
Horned Grebe	"	17	110 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Red-necked Grebe	"	10	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Pied-billed Grebe	"	9	4 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	10, 17	2, 1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	13	19 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher et al
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	14	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	17	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	27	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Barbers
*Cattle Egret	"	24	1 Town of Newstead	Freeland
Whistling Swan	"	5-30	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	6	21 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	8	1 Belmont	Pitzrick, Tait
	"	8	16 Iroquois NWR	Olsen, Chandler
	"	12	19 Mayville	Rew, Buck
	"	13	28 Lake Erie St. Pk.	Mosher
	"	14	23 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	14	30 Chautauqua Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	14	2 Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	26	4 Beaver Island St. Pk.	Hess
	"	27	2 Fredonia	Barbers
Canada Goose	"	10, 17	1803, 2366 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(maximum counts for month)	
*Brant	"	5 F	32 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	13	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
Snow Goose	"	17	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(blue morph)	
Gadwall	"	10, 17	290, 218 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Northern Shoveler	"	10, 17	3, 2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Wood Duck	"	1	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	17	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	23, 24	2, 1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Redhead	"	12	400 Mayville	Rew, Buck
Ring-necked Duck	"	10	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	13	9 Mayville	Mosher et al
	"	14	2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Lesser Scaup	"	17	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	30	2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Ruddy Duck	"	6	8 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	13	2 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher et al
	"	13	24 SPA Reservoir	Klips
Surf Scoter	"	14	1 Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
Black Scoter	"	12	1 Mayville	Rew, Buck
Hooded Merganser	"	10, 17	105, 92 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	13	24 Mayville	Mosher et al
	"	14	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	14	100 Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)

Volume 48, No. 12 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Sharp-sh. Hawk	Nov.	7,26	1,2	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	14	2	Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
Cooper's Hawk	"	3,22	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	10	1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	15,27,30	1,1,1	Belmont	Burtons
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	14	1	Town of Westfield	Rew et al (BOS)
*Gyr Falcon	"	17	1	Town of Cheektoaga	A. Clark
(dark phase bird; collision with aircraft at airport; specimen at Buffalo Museum of Science)					
American Coot	"	2	24	Cassadaga Lake	Moshers
	"	10,17	47,8	Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	14	200	Chautauqua Lake	Rew et al (BOS)
Killdeer	"	1,2	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Greater Yellowlegs	"	1,4,8 L	2,1,1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	2,4 L	1,1	Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Glaucous Gull	"	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
Iceland Gull	"	26	1	Queenston, Ont.	Hess
Franklin's Gull	"	13	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
	"	28	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
*Black-headed Gull	"	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
	"	24	1	Niagara River, Bflo.	Klips
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	11	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Klips
(found dead on beach)					
Little Gull	"	13	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips
	"	20	1	Queenston, Ont.	Barbers
	"	21	1	Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
	"	30	1	Niagara River, Bflo.	Klips
*Forster's Tern	"	19	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
*Razorbill	"	27	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Duncan, McLaughlin
Snowy Owl	"	30 F	1	Buffalo	A. Clark, Vance
Short-eared Owl	"	15	2	Iroquois NWR	Morse
Common Flicker	"	2	1	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	28	1	Elma	Forsberg
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-30	1	Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	10,16	1,1	Lewiston (f)	Cooper
	"	22,24,25	1,1,1	Belmont	Burtons
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	9	1	Silver Creek	Clarke, Neven
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	2	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	16-30	2-3	Belmont	Burtons
	"	16-30	1-2	Elma	Forsberg
	"	17	2	Silver Creek (f)	Richardson
Carolina Wren	"	27	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Duncan
Brown Thrasher	"	2-30	1	Belmont	Burtons
Mockingbird	"	9	1	Fredonia	Goetz
	"	11	2	S. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
Eastern Bluebird	"	1,2	3,2	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	1	5	Fredonia	Moshers
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	1-15	1-2	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	5	6	Alfred	Brooks
Water Pipit	"	6	2	Town of Bennington	Rosche

Volume 48, No. 12 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Cedar Waxwing	Nov.	6,15	200,100	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	11	150	Fredonia	Goetz
	"	14	200	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew et al (BOS)
			(maximum counts for month)		
Northern Shrike	"	14 F	1	Grand Island	Hess
	"	27	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	1-9	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	1-20	1-3	Alfred	Brooks
	"	5	2	Fredonia	Mosher
	"	6	1	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	7	1	Town of Holland	Becker
	"	14	2	Dunkirk	Rew et al (BOS)
Rusty Blackbird	"	8	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	14-22	1	Alfred (f)	Klingensmith
Evening Grosbeak	"	8 F	2	Belmont	Burtens
	"	24	2	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	28	20	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	15,20	2,2	Alfred	Brooks
House Finch	"	1-30	1-4	Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	1,16	5,10	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	1-30	1-8	Elma	Forsberg
Tree Sparrow	"	2,11	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	4-30	1-12	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	5-28	1-2	Elma	Forsberg
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1-30	1-2	Belmont	Burtens
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-24	37	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
	"	1-30	2-5	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1,6,16	1,3,2	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	1-30	1-3	Belmont	Burtens
	"	1,11	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	13,25	1,1	Elma	Forsberg
	"	26	1	Alfred	Klingensmith
Fox Sparrow	"	2,9,14	3,6,2	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	4	1	Lewiston (f)	Cooper
	"	10,17	1,1	Fredonia	Mosher
Snow Bunting	"	14	2	Point Gratiot	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	17	3	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	21	1	Alfred	Klingensmith

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 249

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month. 6

Total for year 255

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of November 10, 1982

The meeting was opened by Vice-President Robert Brock, and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Bob Klips described a 20-year old offset printing press which is owned by the Society and is sitting idle in a basement at SUNY College at Buffalo. He suggested that it be sold or donated so that it could serve a useful purpose.

Bill Townsend gave a follow-up report on the October Count.

It was announced that the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology is conducting a study this year of wintering crow roosts. A similar study was conducted during the 1930's so this will offer a means of direct comparison. Also, a Brock University researcher is investigating the daily movements of Bonaparte's Gulls on the Niagara River system.

Dr. Robert Andrie reported on a recent meeting at Cornell University concerning the progress of the Breeding Bird Atlas Project. The computerized data processing aspect of it is immense and apparently innovative. For field workers, the importance of using habitat features as a guide to bird finding is going to be emphasized. Bob reports that our region is doing quite well. He also demonstrated a short publication describing the most recent entries to the Ontario Nest Records Survey.

Program: Marie Wendling described some recent additions to the ornithological literature. She related that the public library wasn't especially helpful as a source of these books, lacking some of the newer ones and confining many to the non-circulating reference department. The Science Museum's reference library is recommended. Journals are a good source of information. The recently imposed name changes for several North American birds were criticized for their role in rendering slightly obsolete some magnificent books referencing, for example, Whistling Swans rather than Tundra Swans. Rails of the World and Wading Birds of the World were held up and all present viewed their striking color plates. For the armchair or actual traveler, more and more field guides are appearing. One of these, covering Australian birds, was shown and the possibilities for confusion were pondered, with about 50 seemingly identical wrens on a few sample plates, lined up like soldiers. For novice birders, Watching Birds, would be a good introduction to ornithology. Some of the accomplishments of present and former B.O.S. area birders, as mentioned in the literature, was summarized, including rare warbler sightings, comprehensive regional lists, and the elucidation of the life history of a rare tropical bird. From the philosophical (Spirit of Survival) to the practical (How to Win the War Against Pest Birds), there's a great range of quality books for the interested birder.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Field Trip to Dunkirk & Chautauqua Lake, November 14, 1982

The small group of B.O.S. members who gathered on a cold but dry day for a field trip to Chautauqua County were rewarded with interesting birding. The previous night's northerly winds had brought a flight of Common Loons to the area and we observed 22 of them in the Dunkirk Harbor, 13 more along Lake Erie to Barcelona and eight on Chautauqua Lake. Horned and Pied-billed Grebes were also numerous.

Also at the Dunkirk Harbor, a Double-crested Cormorant perched on the outer breakwall, a Kingfisher patrolled the docks and two Yellow-rumped Warblers foraged among the leaves of shoreline willows.

At the mouth of the Canadaway Creek, 23 Tundra (Whistling) Swans flew over us, a few uttering their mellow calls which drifted down to us from the gray November sky. Land birds were scarce in the Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary but as we returned to our cars along Route 5, we came upon a flock of over 200 Cedar Waxwings feeding in a multiflora rose hedge along with several House Finches. Two more Yellow-rumped Warblers were found in the bayberry area along Route 5 and a Rough-legged Hawk joined our trip for awhile, accompanying us almost to Barcelona.

At the pond on Beaujean Road near Mayville, always worth a stop in the Fall, we found 59 Hooded Merganser, mostly males, 75 American Wigeon and three Great Blue Herons. On Chautauqua Lake we saw 30 more Swans, ten species of diving ducks, including one Surf Scoter, and over 300 Coots. At Prendergast Point a Snow Bunting walked about within a few feet of our cars affording us a better view than we had had of the two found earlier at Pt. Gratiot.

We came back through the beautiful Chautauqua hill country and finished our birding at Cassadaga Lake. We had logged 51 species for the day.

Frances M. Rew

1982 Hawk Migration at Grimsby, Ontario

by Walter Klabunde

Editor's Note: Grimsby, Ontario, located at the Niagara escarpment alongside Lake Ontario, midway between Toronto and Buffalo, is the site of significant springtime concentrations of migrating raptors. The area has been monitored regularly for several years. The following 1982 compilation represents the efforts of the writer and several other hawk watchers. During favorable days many observers are on site, calling out the hawks as they fly by.

Several Grimsby hawk lookouts are utilized here, as outlined below. However, the principal lookout, the Beamer Memorial Conservation Area, deserves special mention. This is a beautiful open, wooded area bordering orchards that offer not only hawks but also land birds, wildflowers, and spectacular views of Lake Ontario and the City of

1982 Hawk Migration cont.

Grimsby. To get there, leave the Queen Elizabeth Way on Cristie Street, south, which continues southward through Grimsby up the escarpment, where it is known as Mountain Street. At the top of the escarpment, turn right across from a church, onto Regional Road 89. Follow this road around west about a mile to Quarry Road. Turn right onto Quarry Road. The entrance to the Conservation Area is on the right-hand side. Go through the woods to the parking area, which is the most frequented hawk watching spot. Good observing points are also found at the lookouts along the gorge, which may be reached by paths through the wooded area.

Volunteers are needed to help in the upcoming census. Please contact Walt Klabunde if you wish to participate or have any questions.

Breakdown of 679 Unidentified Hawks = 37 Unid. Accipiters + 567 Unid. Buteos +
4 Unid. Falcons + 71 Hawks

Identification of Lookouts:

Primary: Beamer Memorial Conservation Area parking lot.

Auxiliary, Inland: Grimsby Air Park

Auxiliary, Lake Plain: 21 Lakeside Avenue residence
41 Park Road (N) residence
7 Bedford Park Road residence
Lakeshore Park
Fifty Point

Abbreviations:

TV - Turkey Vulture

GO - Goshawk

SS - Sharp-shinned Hawk

CH - Cooper's Hawk

RT - Red-tailed Hawk

RS - Red-shouldered Hawk

BW - Broad-winged Hawk

RL - Rough-legged Hawk

GE - Golden Eagle

BE - Bald Eagle

NH - Northern Harrier

OS - Osprey

PG - Peregrine Falcon

ML - Merlin

AK - American Kestrel

UH - Unidentified Hawk

1982 Hawk Migration cont.

February and March Hawk Count at Grimsby [Lookouts include Beamer
Mem. Cons. Area plus Grimsby Airpark (GA) and Lakeside Ave. (LA)]

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	PG	ML	AK	UH	Total
2/27	3.5					8			8									16
28	4.5					22			1			1						24
Feb. Total	8.0					30			9			1						40
3/01	6.0					2										1	1	4
02	5.0					3												3
03	5.5					12			2								2	16
04	2.0						Snow & Rain											0
05	5.6					2			1									3
06	3.5					76			3									79
07	5.0					4												4
08	6.0					1												1
09	6.6					2												2
10	6.9					9	2											11
11	2.8					1										1		2
12	7.0					1												1
13	6.0		1			19			3			1				4		28
14	7.5	1	2			173			4							2		182
15	7.5		3	5	6	474	163		3			2		1		2	13	672
GA"	3.7	1	1		1	187	35		1		1						216	443
16	3.5					2			1									3
17	0						Mist & Rain											0
18	7.0			1		3			3									7
19	6.0					9	1											10
LA"	3.0					1										6		7
20	9.3	2	1	2	2	85	54		2		2	3				3	9	165
21	3.5																	0
22	7.3	3	4			23	7		5			3				7	10	62
23	5.8	17	4	17	4	190	82		3							5	109	431
24	8.3	55	2	36	9	116	80		5			4			1	2	104	414
LA"	2.8	6		5	2	27	61		2							7		110
25	6.0		1	12	3	17	41		3			3				2	7	89
26	2.0	1			1	11	2		1									16
LA"	1.0					5										2		7
27	4.0																	0
28	6.2	4	3	1	1	11	4		4		1					1	5	35
29	8.5	47	2	14	3	60	16		2			5				3	26	178
30	8.2	42		10	3	26	6		3			1				3		94
31	6.6	80		54	4	34	5		1			2				5	2	187
March Total	180.7	259	24	157	39	1586	559		52		4	24		1	1	56	504	3266

1982 Hawk Migration cont.

April 1982 Hawk Count at Grimsby [Lookouts include Beamer
Mem. Cons. Area plus Lakeside Ave. (LA), Bedford Pk. Rd. (BP),
Grimsby Airpark (GA), Park Rd. (PR), Lakeshore Pk. (LS), and Fifty Point (FP)]

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	PG	ML	AK	UH	Total
4/01	8.1	9		5		11				1		1				1		28
02	7.9	11	6	56	12	310	81		24		1	1				2	6	510
03	9.0	10		4	1	5						3				2		25
04	4.2					1											1	2
05	7.8	1		1	1	19	2					1						25
LA"	1.0					3												3
06	0							Blizzard										0
07	7.5	2				2			1									5
08	7.5	3				3						1					1	8
09	7.3	5		4	4	22			5			1				3	2	46
10	8.0	8		6	2	32	1		1			3				1	4	58
11	5.0	7		4		1												12
12	8.5	65	2	49	5	65	6		4		1	8	1		1	2	8	217
LA"	1.0	4			2	4												10
BP"	0.1	30																30
13	8.0	3		1		2			1									7
14	7.6	36		25	1	135	12		6			6	4	1		5	7	238
15	7.8	27	2	112		60	5		6		1	8	7			10	1	239
GA"	1.8	14	3	43	3	39	3		1			2	1			1	6	116
16	8.8	11	1	571	7	55	10	64	4			5				3	4	735
LS"	1.0			3		1						1	1				11	17
17	9.0	6		133			1	40				2	2			1		185
18	8.0			22		5		11				2			1		1	42
19	9.0	1	1	502	10	45	3	146	1			7	1			4	21	742
PR"	2.0			9		13		60									2	84
20	4.0			156	1	3		5	1			4				1		173
21	7.6			22	2	2	1	1	1	1		1						33
22	7.8	3	1	28	2	24		26				4				1	5	94
23	7.7	9		186	4	10	4	14				4				9		240
24	9.2	4	3	809	9	54	19	149	1			6	1		1	6	40	1102
LA"	2.0			5												3		8
25	10.5	15	8	748	5	58	21	920	4			8	3			6		1800
FP"	1.2			4		4	1	110									5	124
26	8.0			102		2		157				1					1	263
27	5.0		1	9	1	3		23										37
GA"	1.0																	0
28	8.5	4		88	4	111	5	92	6			4	3			1	11	329
LA"	1.0			10		4	2									1		17
29	8.0			17		14	1	8				2	1				3	46
GA"	1.7	9		2		6		30									4	51
30	8.0	3		10		6		3										22

April
Total 300.0 19 28 3746 76 1134 178 1859 67 2 3 86 25 1 3 63 148 7719

1982 Hawk Migration cont.

May 1982 Hawk Count at Grimsby [Lookouts include Beamer
Mem. Cons. Area plus Park Rd. (PR)]

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	PG	ML	AK	UH	Total
5/01	6.5			21		1		32					1				2	57
02	8.0	5		102	1	9		22				2	1				2	144
03	7.6	4	1	65	1	19		129	2	1		3					7	232
04	6.0	2		124		28		89	1			2				1		247
05	7.6	1		66	2	10	1	92	2	1		3					3	181
06	7.0			215	3	8		115	1			3	1	1		1	1	349
07	8.0			187	4	8		18			1	2						220
PR"	2.0			17	1	1		88										107
08	0							RAIN										0
09	7.2			50		3	2	4				1	1					61
10	8.5	7		61	2	14		18							1		2	105
11	7.6			29		8		10	1			1						49
12	7.7			38		1												39
13	6.4			19		3		8				1						31
14	7.7		2	55	1	16		76										150
15	5.2	1		5		2		1									8	17
16	4.3	2		2		1												5
17	6.0			1		1												2
18	6.0			5		3		1				1						10
19	7.0			1				1										2
20	7.0			2								1						3
21	7.0			2		3		4				1				1	1	12
22	0							RAIN										0
23	0							RAIN										0
24	7.6			1														1
25	7.0	4		2		10		15				1						32
26	7.0					1												1
27	6.2			3								1						4
28	6.3			2													1	3
29	0							No Coverage										0
30	0							No Coverage										0
31	6.0					2		11										13

May
Total 174.4 26 3 1075 15 152 3 734 7 2 1 23 4 1 1 3 27 2075

Season
Total 610 585 55* 4978* 130 2902 740* 2593 135* 4 8 134* 29* 3 5* 122 679 1310*

*Record high.

4923 Creek Road, Lewiston, New York

Wintering-bird Survey - 2nd Year!

If everything works out all right, next month will be March (haha). That means that it is time for our wintering-bird survey of the five birds: Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Cardinal, and House Finch.

In the first year, 1982, we had thirty-five people respond to our request for assistance; twenty-five of those people are members of the B.O.S. and the other ten were friends of members. These thirty-five observers found ten of the Tufted Titmouse, six Carolina Wren, six Mockingbird, two hundred twenty-five Cardinal and one hundred forty-six House Finch, in ten of the B.O.S.'s sectional divisions of territory. Since there are twenty-eight sections, that means that we only touched 35% of our region.

This year, let us make a greater effort to reach additional sections, in order to up the percentage of coverage. Some of the members who did not respond last year will be receiving personal notes, requesting their help in this important activity chosen by our Research Committee.

We sincerely hope that you will all respond to our call to birding. Attached to this issue are some helps...a map of our region, with the twenty-eight sections and some highways and towns marked within them, and a form for reporting your successes. Good looking!

Marg Wright
Compiler

* * * * *

BIRDS AND POETS

THE SISKINS

Theodore Roethke (1908-1963)

The bank swallows veer and dip,
Diving down at my windows,
Then flying almost straight upward,
Like bats in daytime,
And their shadows, bigger,
Race over the thick grass;
And the finches pitch through the air, twittering;
And the small mad siskins flit by,
Flying upward in little skips and erratic leaps;
Or they sit sideways on limber dandelion stems,
Bending them down to the ground;
Or perch and peck at larger flower-crowns,
Springing, one to another,
The last-abandoned stalk always quivering
Back into straightness;
Or they fling themselves against tree trunks,
Scuttling down and around like young squirrels,
Birds furious as bees.

Now they move all together! -
These airy hippety-hop skippers,
Light as seed blowing off thistles!
And I seem to lean forward,
As my eyes follow after
Their sunlit leaping.

NOTES

Botulism Kills Wild Ducks

ALABAMA - Abnormally warm fall weather and low water levels were cited as contributing factors in a botulism outbreak that killed 1,500 ducks at the Oak Orchard Wildlife Area.

State Department of Environmental Conservation Wildlife Biologist Dan Carroll said the October bird kill was the largest ever recorded in the state.

Carroll said botulism bacteria developed in decaying fish. The fish died when water levels at the state preserve subsided because of meager rainfall.

The ducks died after eating fly larvae that developed on the decaying fish carcasses, he said.

DEC officials reported they buried all contaminated carcasses, which ended the botulism outbreak.

(Reprinted with permission from Niagara Gazette, November 14, 1982.)

Crows of the World, extra copies available

Dick Christensen has several new copies for sale of Crows of the World, by Derek Goodwin, published by the Cornell University Press. Selling elsewhere for up to \$38.50, the cost is \$13.00, plus postage if any. (716) 632-7762.

Also, Wavel Barber (683-3061) is seeking a copy of Part 2 of Eaton's Birds of New York.

PROGRAM - MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- February 9th: Arthur R. Clark, Clark's Nutcracker. Fun and games with bird skins, mounts and other paraphernalia as all are challenged in bird identification skills.
- February 23rd: Frances M. Rew and Robert F. Andrie, The Work of the Statisticians. B.O.S. Statisticians will talk about the purposes and procedures in preparing and authenticating the Verification Form for Unusual Records; and what constitutes a "noteworthy record" and how to report it.
- March 9th: Walter and Harriette Klabunde, Census and Survey Awareness. A description and discussion of B.O.S. count and survey activities.
- March 23rd: Wavel Barber, Bird Sounds. Comments on the Why, When, Where and Who of Bird Sounds.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

PROGRAM - FIELD TRIPS

- February 20th: Ontario Plains Trip. Leaders: Walter and Harriette Klabunde (754-4424). We will meet in the parking lot of Tops Market in the Village of Lewiston at 8:30 a.m.
- March 6th: Canadian Owl Trip. Leader: Blaine Farnan. We will meet Wavel and Maxine Barber (683-3061) at Vermont Street and Busti Avenue, near the Peace Bridge, at 8:00 a.m., or at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge on River Road in Fort Erie at 8:15 a.m. We will meet Blaine at Silver Bay Road, Port Colborne, Ontario at 9:00 a.m.
- March 27th: Iroquois - Oak Orchard Trip. Leader: John Morse (948-5455). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza, or 10:15 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake (typing), Marg Wright.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 382-7956



BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
REPORT FORM 1983

MARCH WINTERING-BIRD SURVEY
Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird,
Cardinal, and House Finch

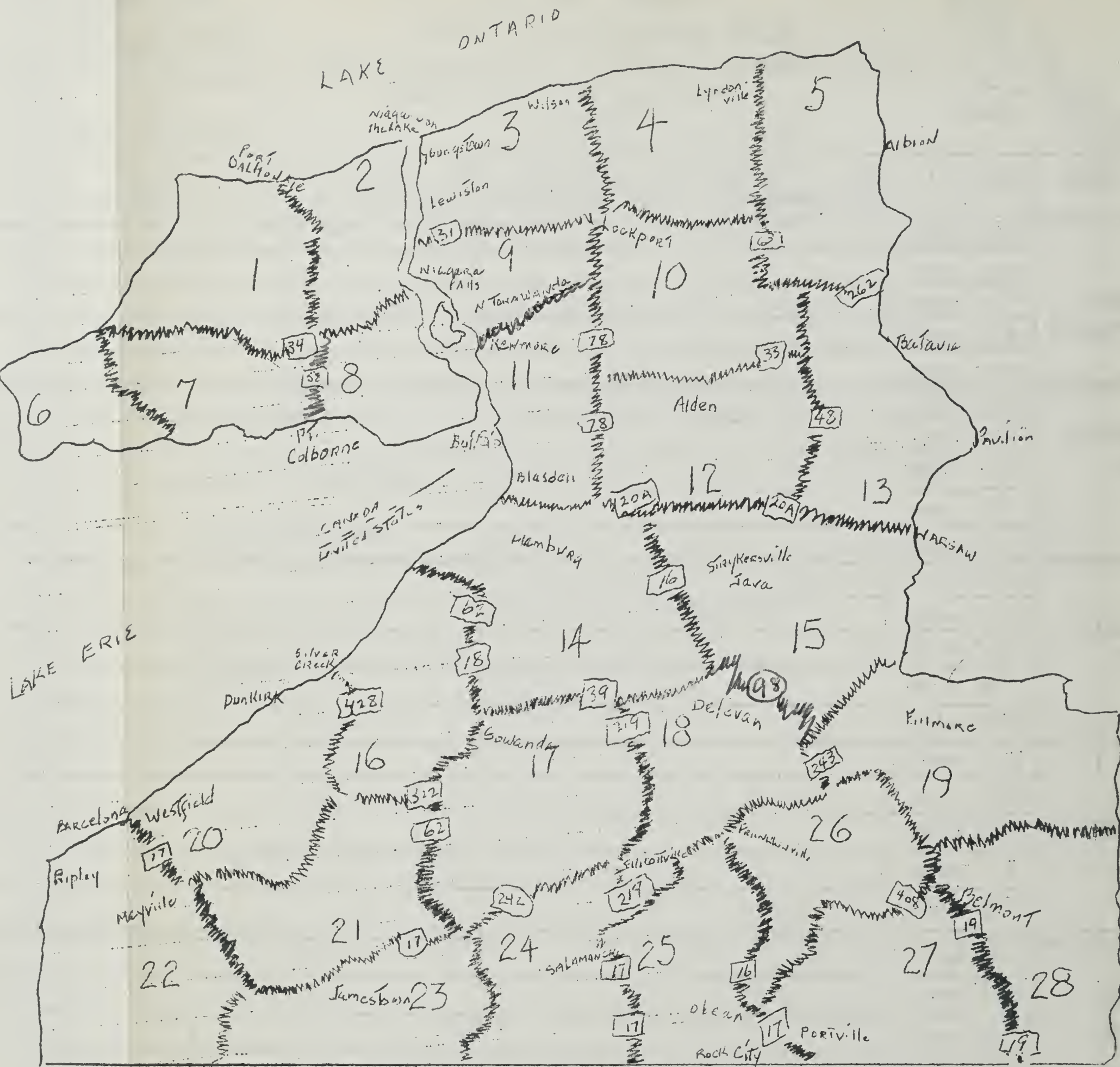
SEND REPORT TO:
Margaret Wright
2481 Sheridan Dr. #5
Tonawanda, NY 14150
BY
APRIL 10, 1983

SPECIES	MARCH '83	No. of Birds at Feeder	No. of Birds seen elsewhere	No. Section studied	Member B.O.S.?	Any Unusuals?
TUFTED TITMOUSE	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
CAROLINA WREN	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
MOCKING BIRD	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
CARDINAL	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
HOUSE FINCH	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					

ANY COMMENTS?

No. Observers





sectional divisions of TERRITORY
 OF THE BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

INDEX TO VOLUME 48 (JANUARY - DECEMBER 1982)

APR 19 1985

Bird records from the Noteworthy Records of The Prothonotary and the B.O.S. Bird Counts requiring written verification according to the 'Date Guide to the Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) are included in this index.

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>FEATURE ARTICLES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Chickadee, Boreal	15,43	Highlights of the FNYSSBC	138
Dowitcher, Long-b.	102	Through the Cemetery,	
Dunlin	46	Over the Ridge	89
Egret, Cattle	149	Nesting Record 1981, Part II	91
Falcon, Peregrine	42	, Part III	103
Flycatcher, Acadian	61	Ontario Nest Record Scheme	109
Gannet	3	Taxonomy, Systematics, and	
Goldeneye, Barrow's	21	Synonymy with Observations	
Goose, Barnacle	33	on the History of Ornithology	117
, White-fr.	14	The Month	1,12,19,31,39,54,70
Grebe, Eared	14		84,100,112,126,146
Gull, Bl.-headed	47,150		
, Laughing	72	<u>ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES</u>	
, Lesser Black-bk.	15		
Gyr Falcon	150	<u>Field Trips:</u>	
Kittiwake, Bl.-leg.	3,21,129,150	Niagara River Trip	9
Plover, Black-bel.	46	Ontario Plain Trip	25
Oriole	73,86	Oak Orchard Area	136
Raven, Common	86,113	Dunkirk & Chautauqua Lake	153
Razorbill	150		
Redpoll, Hoary	22	<u>Bird Counts:</u>	
Sparrow, Clay-colored	73,86	Christmas Count	5
Thrush, Varied	22	January Waterfowl Count	23
Vireo, White-eyed	62	April Bird Count	45
Warbler, Kentucky	58	May Bird Count	60
, Lawrence's	5,58	Fall Bird Count	130
<u>POEMS</u>		<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>	
ALL MORNING by Theodore Roethke	140	Andrle, Robert	139
THE HERON by Theodore Roethke	123	Barber, Wavel	117
THE SISKINS by Theodore Roethke	158	Becker, Esther	89
		Bogacki, William	5
		Cadman, Mike	110
		Christensen, Richard	136,159
		Crins, Bill	82
		Harper, Thomas	60
		Horbett, Audrey	67
		Klabunde, Harriette	117
		Klabunde, Walter	136
		Kress, Stephen	97
		Klips, Robert	78,95,107
		Lown, Bradley	45
		Meade, Gordon	28
		Pitzrick, Vivian	26,74
<u>FEATURE ARTICLES</u>			
Allegany Park Management Plan	79		
Birds and Poets	78,95,107		
Breeding Bird Atlas Project '82-3	139		
It's Bluebird Time Again	26		
Botula Kills Wild Ducks	159		
Winter Birds Survey, 2nd year	156		
1982 March Winter Survey	87		
B.O.S. Study Area	88		
Hawk Migration Conference IV	142		
1982 Hawk Migration at Grimsby	153		

<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u> (Cont.)	<u>PAGE</u>
Reckhow, Alan	23
Renning, Karen	5, 36, 40, 60, 66, 116 117, 135, 136, 137, 152
Rew, Frances	153
Thill, Joseph	1, 12, 19, 31, 39, 54, 70, 84 84, 100, 112, 126, 146, 155
Townsend, William	131
Wright, John	17
Wright, Margaret	87, 158

NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Letter from Gordon Meade on Atlas Project	28
Audubon Society's Upcoming Program	143
Letter to Beaver Island Park Administration	17
New Birding Club - Ontario Field Ornithologists	81
Books Available:	
Eaton's BIRDS of N.Y.	124, 144
CROWS of the World	159
Call for Feeder & House Designs	97
Color-marked Terns	51
New Members & Changes of Address	67
Secretary's Report of Meetings	25, 36, 45, 60, 66, 116 117, 135, 136, 137, 152
Saw-whet Owl Color-marking	141



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

JANUARY 1983

NUMBER 1

THE MONTH

Once again this year that narrow band of strong westerly winds in the upper atmosphere known as the Jet Stream modified the weather on the Niagara Frontier, this time to almost everyone's delight. The Jet Stream wandered far north of its usual track in December, allowing an unusually strong flow of south-westerly winds to bring tropical air from the Gulf of Mexico into the Lower Lakes Region. The result was warm and spring-like temperatures giving Western New York and the Niagara Peninsula the warmest December since 1923 and only 0.1 degree short of the all time record high average temperature for this month. An incredible reading of 74° (F) on December 3rd tied the record high for this month and new high temperatures were recorded on the 1st (64° F), the 2nd (68° F), the 5th (67° F), and again, in the last week of the month, on Christmas Day (67° F), the 26th (55° F), and the 28th (67° F). Following the balmy first few days of December, temperatures became more seasonal on the 6th but no significant snowfall occurred until four inches was recorded on both the 19th and the 20th before a second period of spring-like weather commenced on the 23rd, melting it all. Following heavy rain and high winds on December 28th, a cold front passed through the area ending the month on a cold but virtually snowless note. The average temperature for December was 37.5° (F), 9.4° above normal; precipitation measured 3.32 inches at Greater Buffalo International Airport, .32 inches above average. December was a very cloudy and wet month although total snowfall at Buffalo was only 12.9 inches for the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Despite the warm weather there was no dearth of reports of wintering gulls, although unfortunately, few records were submitted to the compiler. During the record high temperatures of the first week of December, no less than nine species of gulls were observed including a Lesser Black-backed Gull in Barcelona Harbor on Lake Erie, the first record of this hitherto rare Palearctic larid for Chautauqua County. In Dunkirk Harbor, an immature Black-legged Kittiwake and a

Little Gull were seen. Further north, an adult Iceland Gull of the Kumlien's race was seen at the Adam Beck Generating Station overlook at Niagara Falls, Ontario on December 5th. Little Gulls were also reported at Niagara Falls and on the lower river at Queenston on that date. A second "Kumlien's Gull" was seen by Robert Andrie and his party on the Niagara River at Lewiston on December 12th and an immature Sabine's Gull was reported from the upper river at Niagara Falls, Ontario on the 12th and the 13th.

A Yellow-throated Warbler was discovered at Niagara Falls, Ontario on December 12th by Hugh Currie of Toronto. The bird was found in a small grove of Austrian Pines just south of the parking lot of the International Niagara Control Station on the Niagara River. Currie's identification of this rare parulid was confirmed by Harold Axtell who arrived on the scene a short time later and observed the bird. It was moving through the dense foliage of the closely planted pines, very slowly for a warbler and ignoring the presence of Currie, Axtell and others who had gathered to watch it. The diagnostic bright yellow throat, bluish gray mantle and tail with prominent white wing bars and a snow white superciliary stripe extending to the base of the bill identified the bird as the mid-western sub-species Dendroica dominica albilora or "Sycamore Warbler" of some earlier ornithologists. Dr. Axtell was able to show the bird to a group of local bird-watchers on December 13th but it was not seen again until the following Saturday when Hugh Currie located it in another pine grove near the site of the original discovery, this time in the company of a Pine Warbler! Unfortunately, both birds disappeared a short time later and could not be found again. All previous sightings of this rare warbler in our study area occurred during the spring migration in the month of May. Beardslee and Mitchell in Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region (1965) list three records from the Niagara Peninsula but none from Niagara Falls. In The Birds of Canada (1966), Godfrey makes reference to a Yellow-throated Warbler "sight record" from Niagara Falls but does not specify the month or year. In Birds of New York State (1974), Bull makes reference to an individual of this species visiting a suet feeder in Oswego County in November, 1962. Mr. Currie's bird appears to be the first winter record for our study area.

The Yellow-throated Warbler shared the excitement in December with the sighting of a Harris' Sparrow in Chautauqua County. On December 9th, Joanne Goetz saw a large pale fringillid in a flock of House Sparrows at a feeder in her backyard on Pine Drive in the Village of Fredonia, N.Y. She noted the pink bill, buff colored head, white throat and blotchy black breast pattern identifying the bird as an immature Harris' Sparrow, a rare straggler from the autumn migration route of this species through the south-central United States. The bird was subsequently seen by most active field observers in Chautauqua County and others from Erie County as it remained in the vicinity of the Pine Avenue feeder for the rest of the month.

Other interesting observations reported in December include 76 Whistling Swans seen by Frances Rew on Chautauqua Lake on the 5th and a flock of five of these birds reported from Beaver Island State Park on Grand Island on the 18th and 19th. The adult male Barrow's Goldeneye at Niagara Falls, Ontario was seen regularly throughout the month. All three species of scoters have been especially rare

on the Niagara Frontier this fall and early winter with only two reports of White-winged Scoters, both single individuals and a lone Black Scoter in December; the latter bird was seen in the gorge below Niagara Falls on the B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count on the 19th. The first formal record of a Purple Sandpiper for the year came on December 5th when a bird was spotted by members of a B.O.S. field trip while it probed among the rocks in the rapids of the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario. A Brown Thrasher was seen throughout December at the feeder of Doris and Lou Burton in Belmont in Allegany County. Predictably, the mild weather in December did not encourage movement of winter finches into this area and they were scarce --- both in number of species and individuals. Several observers in the Southern Tier counties, commenting on this scarcity noted that the numbers of Evening Grosbeaks appearing at feeders were dramatically down. However, on the Christmas Bird Count of the Beaver Meadow Environmental Education Center in Wyoming County, Ray Hein reported 34 Pine Grosbeaks feeding in a Box Elder about four miles south of N.Y. Route 78 in the Town of Java. On the B.O.S. Christmas Count on the 19th, 78 species of birds were reported, the most unusual perhaps being a Savannah Sparrow seen by Dick Byron and his party in the company of a flock of Tree Sparrows and a Swamp Sparrow. Of interest are remarks by Elizabeth Brooks concerning a Tree Sparrow recovered in a mist net for banding on December 7th. Mrs. Brooks originally banded this bird in the Town of Alfred on November 15th, 1976 and subsequently recovered it in her nets at the same location on November 16th, 1978, December 3rd, 1980 and November 10th, 1981 prior to this year. Tom Harper reports a very late Chipping Sparrow as an occasional visitor to his feeder at Darien Center in Genesee County between December 21st and the end of the month.

Finally, 1982 was a good year for rarities on the Niagara Frontier and for those readers whose interest is stimulated by such compilations, following is a list of some of the "goodies" seen. January: White-fronted Goose, Lesser Black-backed Gull; February: Barrow's Goldeneye, Greater Redpoll, Hoary Redpoll; March: Barnacle Goose; April: Snowy Egret; May: Lawrence's Warbler; June: American Avocet, Clay-colored Sparrow; July: Laughing Gull, Common Raven; September: Yellow Rail; November: Black Gyrfalcon, Black-headed Gull, Razorbill; December: Yellow-throated Warbler, Harris' Sparrow.

It was with great sadness that members of the Society and other area naturalists and conservationists learned of the death of Harold Mitchell at the age of 92 on December 21st. In an obituary published in the Buffalo News at that time, Harold was described as a charter member of the Buffalo Ornithological Society who was recently honored by this organization for his 52 years of service. He was in fact much more than that. His all-consuming interest in the study of birds was infectious. He, perhaps more than any other single individual in Western New York was responsible for introducing several generations of young people to the fascination of this pastime and the love of wild nature it engenders. This issue of The Prothonotary is dedicated to Harold Mitchell and suitable tributes to his memory by friends and colleagues are published elsewhere in these pages.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
 F - Indicates first record for the migration.
 L - Indicates last record for the migration.
 (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Dec.	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	5	2 Mayville	Rew
	"	10,17,24	1,1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	12	1 Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle et al
	"	12	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	15,19,25	1,2,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Horned Grebe	"	31	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	18	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
	"	21	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	31	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	31	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Thill, Andrle
Great Blue Heron	"	12	1 Chippawa, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	26	1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	28	1 North Tonawanda	Thills
Whistling Swan	"	5	76 Mayville	Rew
Canada Goose	"	12,29	300,210 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	29	32 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher
Gadwall	"	31	10 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Thill, Andrle
	"	31	22 Port Maitland, Ont.	Thill, Andrle
Ring-necked Duck	"	5	1 Fort Niagara St. Pk.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	12	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	"	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
White-w. Scoter	"	5	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Barbers et al (BOS)
	"	5	1 Mayville	Goetz
Hooded Merganser	"	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	31	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	3-30	1-2 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	9	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtens
	"	5-29	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	10	1 Darien Center	Harper
	"	19	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	21,24	1,1 Depew	Barbers
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1,12,19	1,1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	23	1 Town of Sheldon	Harper
	"	24	1 Clarence Center	Barbers

Volume 49, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Northern Harrier	Dec.	31	1 Stromness, Ont.	Duncan
	"	31	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Thill, Andrle
American Coot	"	26	96 Mayville	Mosher
*Purple Sandpiper	"	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
Glaucous Gull	"	5	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	12	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	31	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Thill, Andrle
Iceland Gull	"	5	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Klips et al (BOS)
*Iceland Gull				
(<u>L.g. kumlieni</u>)	"	12	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
Little Gull	"	5	2 Queenston, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	12	2 Lewiston	Andrle et al (BOS)
	"	13	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Gula
Long-eared Owl	"	31	1 Dunn Twp., Ont.	Thill, Andrle
Short-eared Owl	"	29-31	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
Belted Kingfisher	"	5	2 Queenston, Ont.	Klips et al (BOS)
	"	12	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	22, 28	1, 1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
	"	24	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	31	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Common Flicker	"	5	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	8, 14	1, 1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	4	1 Fort Niagara St. Pk.	Klabundes
	"	13, 31	1, 1 Belmont	Burtons
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	4	6 Fort Niagara St. Pk.	Klabundes
Horned Lark	"	19	6 Alfred	Brooks
(<u>E.a. praticola</u>)	"	30	16 Dunkirk	Mosher et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1-2 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	1-31	2-3 Belmont	Burtons
	"	9-31	1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	14-25	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick, Burtons
	"	17-31	1-3 Fredonia (f)	Mosher
Carolina Wren	"	1-31	1 Town of N. Harmony	Reckhows
	"	6	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
Mockingbird	"	17, 20, 23	1, 1, 1 Lewiston	Klabundes
Brown Thrasher	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
American Robin	"	5	2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	15, 22, 25	25, 1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	28	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	28	30 Buffalo	Rosche
	"	31	20 Town of Tonawanda	Thills
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	2-31	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
	"	26	1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	26	3 Mayville	Mosher
	"	31	4 Long Beach, Ont.	Thill, Andrle
Northern Shrike	"	11, 13	1, 1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	15, 30	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	12	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	30	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	31	1 Long Beach, Ont.	Thill, Andrle

Volume 49, No. 1 "Noteworthy Records" cont.

Yellow-r. Warbler	Dec.	3	3 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Yellow-thr. Warbler	"	12, 13	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Axtell, Currie
	"	12	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
Common Yellowthroat	"	26	1 Town of Hamburg	Zebehazy
E. Meadowlark	"	1	7 Fredonia	Mosher
Red-w. Blackbird	"	10, 13	1, 1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	24	1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	26, 29, 30	2, 1, 1 Depew (f)	Barbers
Rusty Blackbird	"	10	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	19, 20	10, 2 Eggertsville (f)	Hulls
Evening Grosbeak	"	5-31	1-12 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	13-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	31	3 Alfred	Klingensmith
House Finch	"	1-31	1-8 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	1-31	25-30 Eggertsville (f)	Hulls
	"	1-31	22 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	1-31	25-60 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-31	2-3 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	1-31	11-30 Depew (f)	Barbers
	"	4, 10, 17	10, 25, 30 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	9-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
Vesper Sparrow	"	5	2 Town of Charlotte	Rew
Chipping Sparrow	"	22-31	1 Darien Center	Harper
*Harris' Sparrow	"	9-21	1 Fredonia (f)	Goetz, Flory
				Mosher, Rew
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	5	3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	7	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	10	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosches
	"	10, 16	1, 5 Town of Elma	Forsberg
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-31	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
Snow Bunting	"	11	50 Town of Holland	Rosche et al

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year. 255

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month. 3

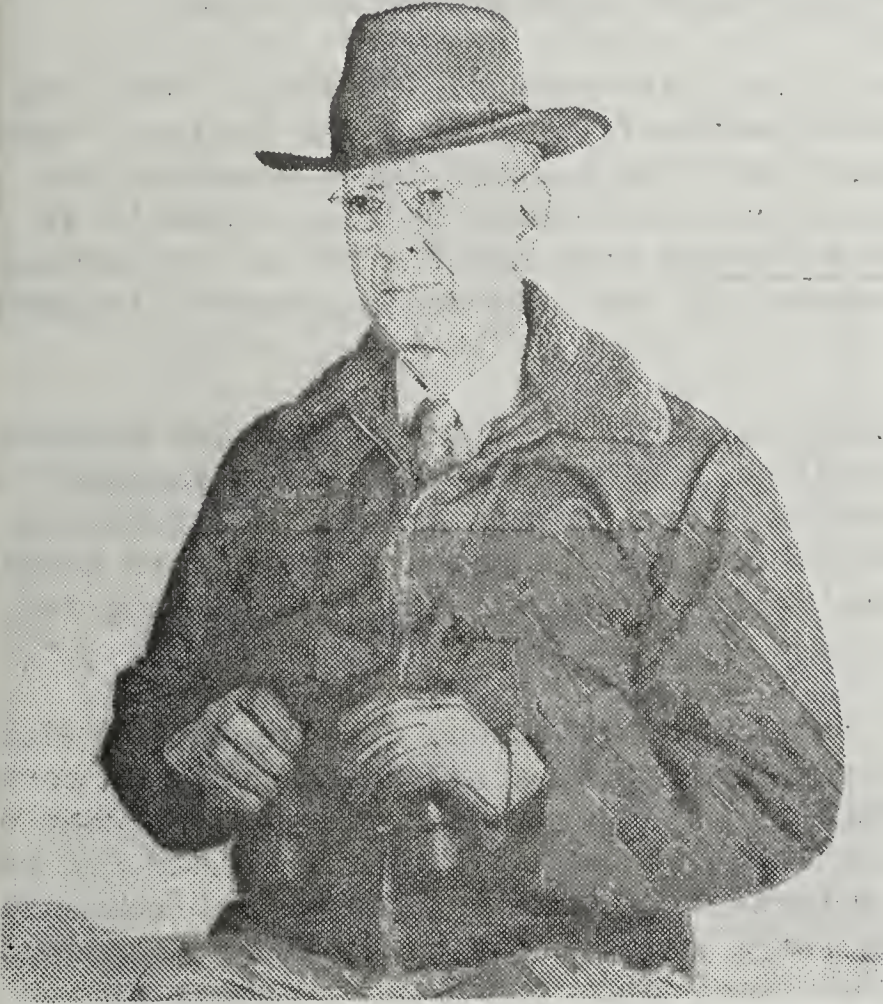
Total for year 258

Plus 3 more species for which asterisk omitted earlier
and 2 in Addenda 263

Addenda

*Snowy Egret	April	1	1 Town of Westfield	Slacks
*American Avocet	June	4	1 Town of Carlton	Spahn
Black-l. Kittiwake	April	3	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Eastern Kingbird	Sept.	<u>25</u>	1 Town of Wales	Schaffner, Clark

IN MEMORIAM: HAROLD DIES MITCHELL



The past fifty years of the Buffalo Ornithological Society may well be called The Harold Mitchell Years. His death on December 21, 1982 marks for the Society, as Dave Bigelow recently wrote, "the end of an era," which he largely dominated. Chief of the founders, initiator of most of its programs, participant in every endeavor, he provided the leadership that gave the Society its distinction.

Born in Catskill, New York, on August 13, 1890, he early moved with his family to West Newton, near Boston, where he became the protégé of Archie Hagar of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and thus became a serious student of ornithology while still in his teens. He studied engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating in 1912. While employed in Racine, Wisconsin he met and married Mildred Dickson, who survives along with their three daughters: Janet Samdahl of East Aurora, Virginia Butler of Bellevue, Washington, and Helen Rader of London, Ohio. He came

to Buffalo in 1925, where he later became a partner and president of Potter and Dugan, Inc. He retired in 1975.

His interest in birds continued unabated. In November 1929, with seven others he organized the Buffalo Ornithological Society, becoming its first and later its fourth president. Organized for the serious study of birds, it conducted planned field trips, bird counts and twice-monthly meetings. He taught the second class in ornithology at the Buffalo Museum of Science. As a member of that class, I found him an inspiring and dedicated teacher and a tireless field trip leader. About this time he also began promoting the idea of a monthly publication, later called The Prothonotary after the rare warbler found nesting at Oak Orchard, a favorite birding spot. He was its first editor, writing much of it himself, as well as printer and distributor, before turning it over to others some years later. The first issue came out in March 1932.

Together with Clark Beardslee, the second president, he felt that the study of birds conducted by the Society should culminate in the publication of a book on the ornithology of the region. There had been some observations done in the past, but the records were widely scattered, with many simply in the hands of interested persons here and there. These had to be found, older known birders interviewed, and present observers located and persuaded to join the effort. Especially, the members had to be inspired to study the birds seriously by going into the field, recording

their findings, and taking part in the two, later more, bird counts. These recorded findings had to be checked for accuracy by Mitchell and Beardslee and published in The Prothonotary. As usual, Harold's enthusiasm and persistence succeeded.

It was a dreadful blow to Harold when Clark died suddenly in 1957. They had been friends and collaborators for more than twenty-five years. The project, however, was well underway and Harold continued with the help of the members of the Society, especially that of Dr. Harold Axtell and Dr. Robert Andrie. Finally in 1965, the book Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region came off the press, the definitive book of the ornithology, past and present, of the area and a personal triumph for Harold.

During these years he had somehow found time for other projects. The Audubon Society, which had languished after an excellent beginning in the early years of the century, began to show signs of coming back to life. Harold joined in the effort and as usual got it going, becoming president for two strenuous years before turning it over to other able people. Later he took part in heading the fund-raising for their new sanctuary, Beaver Meadow.

There were other activities. He was one of the group who organized the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs and became one of its early presidents. He served on the Board of Managers of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences for a number of terms before becoming its president. While on the Board of the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs he helped direct their influence for better environmental policy. He served also on the Erie County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Tifft Farm Technical Advisory Committee. In addition, he was a member of the American Ornithologists' Union, the Wilson Ornithological Society, the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, the Erie County Chapter of the Isaac Walton League and the Nature Conservancy.

There was no end of awards and honors. Prominent among them were the Wildlife Award in 1972 by the New York State Conservation Council and, in 1971, his designation as Conservationist of the Year by the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. In 1976 the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs honored him as "founder, past president and esteemed member" and again for his 92nd year with a letter expressing their appreciation for his continuing support. In the Beaver Meadow Environmental Education Center there is a path called the Mitchell Trail and in neighboring Ontario a woods at Long Beach, now a sanctuary of the Niagara Falls Nature Club, is called the Harold D. Mitchell Woods.

Few men are given so many years of achievement and honor. At the age of ninety-two he could look back over years of doing well the good things he had wanted to do. His mind was always full of projects and since he was essentially a doer, he got one after the other started and going, then turned them over to other able people, while he went on to something else he wanted done. He liked people and the out-of-doors, so he went on every possible field trip, every meeting of the organizations he believed in and their state or national conventions, and was always an active participant. He lent his influence liberally to good causes and never neglected what he thought was his duty or obligation.

Yet he found time for friends and kind and thoughtful acts. He enjoyed social activities and was an expert bridge player. He remembered names and faces of hundreds of people, and with the courtly manners of a gentleman had a way of making people feel at ease. What a full life he had, and what satisfaction, and yes, fun, it must have been to live it.

Marie A. Wendling

* * * * *

As an old friend of Harold D. Mitchell, I deeply mourn his passing.

We were friends for over 50 years. I admired his abilities as a keen field observer of bird life in Western New York. We spent many days together on field trips with the B.O.S.

Back in the 1930's I had the title of Junior Statistician. About 2 or 3 times a week I would go to Harold Mitchell's house on Crescent Avenue in Buffalo. Clark Beardslee was usually there too. Harold and Clark would write the data for the Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region. This was always an interesting discussion, but the big problem was that no sooner had they had a particular species all written up, somebody reported a later or earlier date than they had recorded, so that it was necessary to change the text. They finally agreed to have a cutoff date, after which there would be no more changes. This cutoff date was very hard for Harold to accept, but if they hadn't, this book would still be in the writing stages.

Harold received many phone calls every day from his friends all over Western New York with reports of interesting birds that they had observed. Harold dutifully noted each record on the back of any old envelope that he happened to have in his pocket. My job was to transfer these notes to the permanent record file.

Harold's desk was most interesting. It was piled high with all these envelopes and other notes that he had made. Harold knew just where every one was until one day Mildred thought that his desk needed some straightening up. That night was a disaster as I tried to record the data on the permanent record cards. For example, Harold knew that there was a record of an early Whistling Swan in there someplace, but where? You should have heard what he said.

In 1941 the B.O.S., the Buffalo Audubon Society, the Isaac Walton League, and the Conservation Forum supplied 5 drakes and 20 hen Mallards for Delaware Park Lake. Harold wanted a picture for the newspaper for publicity purposes. He drafted me and my Brownie camera to take a picture. He wanted Edward G. Weinheimer, the superintendent of Delaware Park Lake and the 25 ducks all in one picture. This couldn't be done, but I took one picture of the superintendent and another of the ducks. Harold talked the Buffalo Courier-Express into combining the two pictures so that on July 14, 1941, in the paper there was one picture showing the superintendent squatting down, looking at the ducks right in front of him.

There are many people interested in birds today in Western New York who got their original start through the teaching of Harold Mitchell. He taught classes at the Buffalo Museum of Science and was also a Bird Study Merit Badge Examiner for the Boy Scouts of America. One could not help but be influenced by his enthusiasm for bird study.

Whenever there was a job that needed doing for the benefit of ornithology, Harold was there to help. He was a charter member of the B.O.S. and served as its first president. He was president again in 1933-34. He also served as president of many other organizations, including the Buffalo Audubon Society and the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. The list of organizations that he served is much too long to include here.

Harold was a great ornithologist and his efforts and accomplishments will be long appreciated on the Niagara Frontier. All his friends will greatly miss him.

Ward M. Klepfer

* * * * *

Like all who knew Harold Mitchell, when I received news of his passing, a kaleidoscope of memories and thoughts flashed through my mind. Dozens of colorful fragments danced through my brain as I thought and reflected and turned Harold's image across my suddenly saddened memory.

Hence, I document a few of these flashbacks from across the sands of golden times. First and foremost was Harold's intense interest in other people, especially the young. He gave freely of his time, knowledge, and enthusiasm. Educated in and coming from the early citadel of American ornithology, Boston, Harold was an outstanding teacher of this science. Competent teachers are animals of patience, and Harold was the epitome of patience. Many times out in the field I would watch him, over and over, explaining the diagnostic markings of a bird, only to have some beginner have him go over the same process a half hour later. This never fazed Harold.

Alas, I am getting ahead of myself. Like many of the early members of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, I first met Harold in that then wonderful birding area, Delaware Park. That first "encounter" with Harold still stands etched into my brain. I came upon two men wearing binoculars tossing peanuts up to a Red-headed Woodpecker, who would sail down and capture them in mid-air. I was spell-bound, transfixed! Timidly I crept nearer. Both men hailed me and asked in a friendly tone of voice if I knew what the bird was? I responded in meek authority that it was a Red-headed Woodpecker. This appeared to please both men, and they asked me my name and introduced themselves as Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Beardslee. They also invited me along on their walk. Suddenly, Harold announced to Clark that he had just spotted a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and then very casually and gently offered me a view through his binoculars. Voilá, a new world! It was my first viewing through binoculars. A new world was born, and with it a life-long friendship.

Needless to say, I "bumped" into my new-found friends frequently thereafter. Then one day they told me about a bird club that held meetings in the Museum, and I was invited to join. Of course, I quickly joined the B.O.S. I never missed a meeting.

At one of the fall meetings in the early 1930's, the idea of a club publication was broached. Instantly, Harold was all for it, and immediately plunged enthusiastically into supporting any and all efforts to bring this idea to fruition. He helped to spark-plug a special meeting, that I attended, that was called exclusively to explore and get ideas on how to publish a club bulletin. Two visitors, I believe from Pittsburgh and Wheeling, West Virginia, who Harold knew and who had been in town for another meeting, addressed us on the mechanics of getting a club publication started. Out of that meeting what was to become The Prothonotary was hatched.

The fledgling publication had many trying moments learning how to fly and to survive. Many weekends were spent in Harold's office of the Potter & Dugan Company, on a side street in back of City Hall. Harold's secretary, one of the few who could decipher his writing, typed up the mimeo stencils. Then others and I would help crank the mimeograph machine, spread the pages out, and then help collate and staple them together. We could not have done it without the enthusiasm, drive and cooperation of Harold.

Then there were the wonderful field trips with Harold. Grand Island and the wait for the ferry, and once aboard, Harold's pertinent discussions with the interesting Captain Fix. Oh, yes, Harold and some others even had to spend the night on Grand Island, because they missed the last ferry to the mainland. Old Capt. Fix got to know us, and in subsequent years he knew if and when we had left the island, and if need be, to tarry a bit before shoving off.

Some Bobwhite had been released in the center of Grand Island, near an old school house. On every trip to the island, Harold and Clark Beardslee would check the population.

Harold loved Grand Island -- the swamps at both ends where the parks and bridges are now located, the hike to Burnt Ship Creek, Edgewater and the gulls, Screech Owls, and the Barn Owl. The woods with the Long-eared Owls, the Longspurs and Snow Buntings in winter. The Christmas counts and the luncheon get-together at the Town Hall. Golden, golden days!

Then one day, Harold took me to Oak Orchard Swamp. Unbelievable, fantastic! For a neophyte, this was heaven! On that very first trip Harold showed me my first Prothonotary Warbler, the one that had been found earlier by Alice Sherman Ulrich, Bertha Schwenger and Al Wander. Harold always loved to share birds with others.

At the AOU Meeting in Pittsburgh, Harold met Bayard Christy and other birders from Pennsylvania and Ohio. They decided to meet in Erie for a weekend of birding. From that gathering the Pymatuning Group was born. Once again, Harold was the fulcrum. The next year the group met in Linesville, Pennsylvania, and I had Pymatuning fever, thanks to Harold.

Harold was always in command of every situation. I shall never forget our Ontario trip, to Bradford marshes in search of LeConte's Sparrows. At bedtime, Harold, Bill Vaughan, and I decided that the free room in the boat house was no place to spend the night; the cannibalistic mosquitos were too much for us. Harold had wisely retreated to town first. Then Bill and I gave up the battle. Thanks to a local policeman, we located a rooming house and wound up in Harold's bedroom, a very large and spacious room with a bevy of beds. We hit the sack immediately and conked out.

About one in the morning, all hell broke loose. Bill Almendinger, another member of our expedition, had finally given up fighting mosquitos in the boat house and hiked to town in search of Harold. The friendly policeman again directed him to the communal hostelry. Bill loudly woke up the proprietress, signed in, and stomped upstairs.

Bill had left the boat house and mosquitos at point zero in humor. He rapidly deteriorated every inch of the way to town. By the time he was outside our room, he had a good head of pent-up anger. Sweet William was MAD!! He demanded loudly to be let in. Somehow or other, Bill's lamentations had awakened me before the rest, and I swear Bill Vaughan slept through it all. I lay there trying to decide where the bomb shelter was. Bill was now calling louder and louder for Harold. By then I was up and Bill found out how to inject the key and gain admission to the room. Someone then turned on a light. Bill was a sight to behold and looked like Mahatma Gandhi on a diet. Half dressed, smeared with mosquitos and a visage of total lack of humor, he was still bellowing oaths of what he thought about Harold, and yes, the rest of us.

It was an amazing sight to witness! Without even opening his eyes, Harold rose up, moved over a little in the bed, and firmly barked, "Bill shut up and get in bed," and immediately dropped back to sleep. Bill shut up and meekly climbed into bed. Silence reigned again. Harold had risen to the occasion once more.

When I returned from service, I immediately came back to the B.O.S. I discussed with Harold and others an idea that I had for forming a group of bird clubs into a state federation. Harold bubbled enthusiasm and supported me 100%, and urged me to bring the matter before the club. Subsequently, the idea came to fruition and the Federation blossomed with the strong support of Dr. Gordon Meade, from Rochester. Harold also served as a president of the Federation.

Harold also became very interested in the Nature Sanctuary Society of Western New York. We made a couple of breeding bird censuses on both the Concord and Zoar Valley properties, and had a lot of fun doing them.

I could write for hours about Harold. That in itself is a remarkable tribute to the impact this man had on the B.O.S. and many individuals, including me. He was an interesting man, a great bridge player, and as an engineer many problems were analyzed with an engineer's mind. When we got hung up or were about to be stuck in the mud, his engineering acumen quickly came to the fore. I soon learned that he was a good man to be stuck with, actually a rare event.

Harold had an abiding love and understanding for the beginning birder, especially young people. It is no accident that there are top flight birders and ornithologists across the United States who were influenced by Mr. Mitchell.

Oh yes, I can not forget Harold's singing while driving. Some how or other he lacked the timbre of an accomplished basso profundo, but that didn't stop him. (Gee, Harold, that "Rambling Wreck from Georgia Tech, and a Helluva an Engineer" sounds good.)

Many tributes and kudos have been passed out to Harold. To me, in travelling over North America and meeting and studying many competent field observers, Harold ranked right up there at the top with the best of them. He had early developed that wonderful New England patina of a back-bay trained field birder. In today's rough and tumble competitive listing, Harold's field "gestalt" stood up with the best. I reflect with great respect Harold deftly pulling out that Wandering Tattler from a flock of shorebirds at Port Colborne, the Kumlien's Gull and Little Gulls out of flocks of gulls, "confusing fall warblers" and confounding flycatchers. All receive astute attention from his telescope and binoculars. As I slowly learned, and am still learning, Harold Dies Mitchell was a birder's birder!

Winston William Brockner

* * * * *

When I arrived at my office on my first morning of work at the Buffalo Museum of Science in September, 1947, the director was waiting outside my door, accompanied by a man with a charming personality and a winning smile who was introduced to me as Harold Mitchell of the Museum's Board of Manager's and the area's leading ornithologist. He was holding a dead bird which he said he was bringing for me to add to the Museum's study collections because we had no specimen of that species. Then he stayed for a few minutes to tell me some things about the Museum, the ornithology of the area, its ornithological people, and especially about an organization called the Buffalo Ornithological Society, of which he seemed to be especially proud.

At closing time that afternoon he appeared at my office again and said he wanted to show Buffalo's best birding spot to me, so off we went to Tifft Street. Later, when he let me off at my rooming house, he showed that he had one of the same little human faults as many of the rest of us over-zealous birders -- he was late for supper! Would I please phone his wife and explain to her why he was late and that he was on his way home?

Those events of that day were a fitting welcome to Buffalo by a man who was thenceforth to be an important and inspiring influence in my life. During the ensuing years I came to realize that in that one day he had shown me most of the characteristics that were basic to the pattern of his life. One of his more obvious characteristics was that he was so very human, so sincere, so frank and open. He was deeply dedicated to interests in ornithology, birding, conservation, organizations devoted to those causes, and to his deep friendships with persons associated with those interests.

He liked to do thoughtful and helpful things for people and to persuade them to accept opportunities to work with him on interesting and important projects in which he was involved. I got the impression that he never turned down a request to be chairman of a committee or president of one of the many above-stated kinds of organizations. He enjoyed leading and running things and performed such duties with enthusiasm, ease, and competence. He was a natural leader, promoter and politician, though his political talents seemed to be mostly restricted to doing whatever was necessary to make the various clubs and activities in which he was involved function effectively in the ways that he believed they ought to. He knew what he wanted, what needed to be done, and how to make it happen, while all along the way he made close friends of those who worked for and with him.

Although he was active in many organizations, and as an individual was very influential in conservation, natural science, and other ornithological affairs, his special baby was the Buffalo Ornithological Society. Harold was one of its founders but he didn't stop there. He continued throughout his active life to be a major force in its activities and to care for it and guide it like a loving father.

A large proportion of its members also thought of him as a loving father and a significant force in their lives.

In spite of his numerous diverse achievements, I think the most appropriate way to end this nostalgic collection of memories may be to repeat what I so often said of him and which always seemed to characterize him best: the simple statement "Everybody loves Harold." And that says a lot.

Harold H. Axtell

* * * * *

I will always remember Harold Mitchell best for his sincere, tireless, and stimulating efforts in encouraging young persons to continue and be active in their observation and study of birds. I was one of those and recall well how he loved to lead field trips, arrange for young persons to go along, and show all participants as many species as he could. In this way he was also able to enhance the activities and increase the membership of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, as well as create interest in the ornithological collections and exhibits at the Buffalo Museum of Science. It was partly through these contacts that in 1948 I started collecting specimens for the Museum.

Another pleasant memory of Harold was when I and my family spent a year in the mountains of Veracruz, Mexico, while I conducted field studies for my doctorate. It was a great pleasure to have him and Mildred visit us, and to be able to show them some of the fascinating and beautiful tropical birds which live in that area.

Through his own hard work, enthusiasm, and persuasive ability Harold stimulated many persons interested in birds to contribute their records and talents to the Buffalo Ornithological Society, thereby helping to make it a more viable and interesting organization.

One project of Harold and Clark Beardslee's that I was particularly happy to be a part of was Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region. I really enjoyed working with him and several others in the long process of gathering information and illustrations, researching references, planning the format, consulting (and sometimes arguing), editing, and seeing through to final publication. This book was one of Harold's crowning achievements. However, it was sad that Clark Beardslee, who devoted so much of his time and great abilities to it, and who would have been of considerable help in publishing it, was not there to share in the satisfying feeling of accomplishment that we all had when the book appeared.

Words alone cannot adequately express my pleasant thoughts of Harold Mitchell as a person and a true friend, and the many ways in which he contributed to ornithology and touched the lives of many of us.

Robert F. Andrle

* * * * *

Harold Mitchell and the Pymatuning Birding Weekend

The Pymatuning Group of birders was started in 1936, three years after the dam was completed that created the sixteen-mile long lake. That year they had dinner in Ford's restaurant in Erie, PA, and Harold Mitchell was master of ceremonies. This began an association which Harold enjoyed for over forty years.

The custom of birding Presque Isle on Saturday and the Pymatuning area on Sunday was well established when the writer and his friends Jim Glick and Frances Rew began attending around 1948. Presque Isle State Park is a swampy peninsula which extends three miles into Lake Erie and is a concentrating point for migrating birds. The weekends usually are scheduled for the peak periods around May 8 and September 24.

After a day on Presque Isle the birders drove the 50 miles to Linesville, PA. There the Traveler's Inn was the headquarters for the Group in 1948 as it had been for many years before that. About fifty birders would be on hand and many of these stayed at the old-fashioned inn, with the overflow going to nearby tourist homes.

Harold used to relate that in the early days of the Pymatuning Group a "rival" group met at the Inn on the same weekend. These were the "Goose-lookers," a group of sportsmen whose main intent was a noisy evening at the Inn, along with a certain amount of ribbing of the bird watchers. They were not missed when they ceased to show up after a few seasons.

Sunday began with an early breakfast of coffee, juice and pastry at the Inn, followed by a walk along the railroad tracks around the north end of Pymatuning Lake. The track went past the fields and through the woods known then as McNutts Woods, the same woods which now are birded Sunday morning by the Group. Few persons who took those early walks will forget the sparkling sunlight, the dew-laden grass and the ever-present warbler song. After an hour we returned to the Inn for a hearty bacon-and-eggs breakfast. Then we took to the autos for a day of birding.

In 1948 the route included a mud flat just north of the spillway which was good for shorebirds. This long since has filled in, but thirty years later Harold would point out the spot as we passed it. Next several hayfields southwest of the spillway would be searched until several Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows were found and everyone had seen them and heard their call. After that the marshes at Blair's bridge and along the tracks north of Hartstown were searched for rails, gallinules and Black Terns. A ride across the causeway often revealed a loon. Only by late afternoon was a halt called so the four-hour return trip to Buffalo could begin.

The Pymatuning weekend was a popular event for the B.O.S. at that time so Harold Mitchell was only one of many excellent birders to take part. In the forefront were Dr. Harold Axtell and Winston Brockner as well as birders from Ohio and Pennsylvania. The area is a favorite for Pittsburgh birders so today a group of twenty-five or so led by Dave Freeland regularly takes part.

The custom of a Saturday night dinner and program began around 1955. This was held for many years in the Grange hall near the center of Linesville. From 1973 through 1977 it was at the Penn Line Grange hall six miles west of Linesville. After that the dinner meeting was moved to its present site at the Presbyterian Church in Linesville. These old-fashioned dinners prepared by the ladies groups were a treat for the hungry birders.

Organizers of the weekend tended to hold office for a number of years. The 1936 program lists Malcolm Waite and Paul Savage as co-chairmen. The sponsors were Harold Mitchell, Howard Heimerdinger, Ronald Leberman, Howard Ruppert, Jean Stull (the bird bander) and Wayne Stumm.

Good birders are never casual about identifying each bird. An incident to illustrate this took place in the 1970 spring walk at Presque Isle. Harold Mitchell was among a group of about twenty bird watchers in the swamp near Gull Point. From time to time a Great Blue Heron would appear over the surrounding trees and someone would call it out. This went on about six times before someone called "another Great Blue." Mitchell looked up and without putting up his binoculars called out, "Why that's a Louisiana Heron -- do all of you see it?" It was a life bird for many and I believe a first of that species for Presque Isle. Harold knew his birds and had instantly recognized it by the white underparts.

Although he continued to drive his car until he was very elderly, Harold found the trip to Pymatuning increasingly a chore so in recent years a group of Buffalo birders took him seven times starting in 1973. In September of 1977 he gave the slide show at the dinner, describing birding spots in this area and showing many old slides obtained from his friend, Mr. Avery. His last trip there was either in 1979 or the Fall of 1980, at which time he was 90 years old.

In the later years Harold's hearing had failed and he was getting only modest help from a hearing aid. At that time he liked to have a young birding friend along, who would be continually besieged by the question, "Do you hear anything?" His eyesight dimmed also but he stoutly maintained that he could identify anything if he could only get his binoculars on it.

At Presque Isle on the Spring and Fall trips of 1977 Harold realized he could no longer attempt the two-mile walk through the sand to Gull Point with his friends. A bout with pneumonia in 1976 had markedly reduced the vitality which had been his blessing all his life. So instead of making the hike he would remain close to the parked car and work the nearby beach and swamp. When we returned he would have a good bird list to present. He wasn't lonely when we left him because other birding parties from throughout the East would recognize him and stop and visit.

Harold was in birding so long that many of the present-day birders only knew him as a gaunt old man with a hearing problem, but still a man with surprising vitality, quick to speak for the cause of conservation and birding. Even the photograph of Harold in the frontispiece of Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region -- which constitutes most birders' earliest image of him -- shows a man 75 years old who looked much as he did at 92. In the earlier days of these outings, Harold was a big lean man of six-foot height, full-faced with a magnificent nose. The 1953 photo which appears earlier in this issue may show his friends how he looked in the "old days."

Harold always enjoyed meeting his friends from the early days at Pymatuning. One such friend was Dr. Paul Savage. An expressive picture of Mitchell and Savage is shown here, which was taken in front of the Driftwood Restaurant in September 1973, after the birders' Sunday morning breakfast. Both men were 83 years old at that time.



* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

At the spring meeting in 1975 a moment of silence was observed for Paul Savage's death. In May of 1983 the assembled Pymatuning Group will pay tribute to the memory of Harold Mitchell, who died December 21, 1982. Harold was a top-notch ornithologist, but more than that he was a man with a passion for birding, who because of his personality was able to transfer some of that passion to several generations of his birding friends. We shall miss you, Harold.

William L. Burch

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- March 23rd: Wavel Barber, Bird Sounds. Comments on the Why, When, Where and Who of Bird Sounds.
- April 13th: Marc J. Chelemer will lead a symposium on Identification of Sparrow Species. Individual members will make short presentations followed by a discussion period.
- April 27th: Representatives of the New York State Power Authority will comment on the possible impact to waterfowl population at the Power reservoirs as the result of planned construction work.
- May 11th: Vivian Pitzrick and Elizabeth Brooks, Nest Finding and Identification. Vivian and Elizabeth, from the Allegany Bird Club, will disclose some of the "trade secrets" that have given them such an admirable record in the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

ANNUAL MEETING - BANQUET ANNOUNCED

The Buffalo Ornithological Society will hold its annual meeting - banquet on Friday, October 14, 1983 at the Park Lane Manor House, Gates Circle, Buffalo.

Dr. William O. Robinson, of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, will be the featured speaker.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson (885-0474; Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- March 27th: Iroquois - Oak Orchard Trip. Leader: John Morse (948-5455). Meet at 8:00 a.m. in front of Citibank, Transitown Plaza, or 9:30 a.m. at Cayuga Pool Overlook.
- April 10th: April Bird Count. Compiler: Tom Harper (547-9563).
- April 24th: Braddock Bay, joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (BOS) (655-4777); Warren Lloyd (GOS) (265-0281); Mary Ann Sunderlin (GOS) (671-2210). We will meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza, at 7:00 a.m.; to join the GOS at Braddock Bay at 9:30 a.m.

Volume 49, No. 1 "Field Trips" cont.

May 1st: Beamer Conservation Area, Grimsby, Ontario; for Hawk Migration. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424). We will meet in the parking area on the U.S. side of the Lewiston-Queenston bridge at 8:30 a.m. for car pooling.

May 7-8th: Pymatuning weekend. Joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle (Erie); Saturday dinner at Linesville, PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations.

May 15th: May Bird Count. Compiler: Marc Chelemer (885-0474).

NOTE: For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer:: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Robert Andrie, Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish, Cathy Mueller, Betty Robbins, Shirley Wake (typing), Marie Wendling and Ken Winters. The 1953 photograph of Mr. Mitchell (p. 7) was provided by the Buffalo Museum of Science.

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN

LIBRARY

VOLUME 49

FEBRUARY 1983 ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 2

APR 28 1983

THE MONTH

The weather in January continued unseasonably mild and cloudy with only one sustained cold spell between the 16th and the 21st. The only appreciable snowfall in the Buffalo area was a 3 inch accumulation on January 14th. Total snowfall for the month as recorded at the Greater Buffalo International Airport was only 9 inches, 14.8 inches below average for the period. The first below zero temperature reading of the fall and winter was a record low of -5° (F) on the 20th in the wake of a severe snow storm that buffeted the eastern seaboard but caused only light precipitation west of the Hudson River in New York State. By January 22nd, mild weather had returned with above average temperatures until month's end. The average temperature for January was 27.0° (F), 3.5° above normal. Total precipitation (rain and snow) measured 1.44 inches, 1.58 inches below average. (Meteorological data as compiled at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The open winter we are enjoying was reflected in avian activity in January. There was no influx of winter finches or other boreal and Arctic species. This is most dramatically illustrated by the complete absence of records of Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins and the virtual lack of Snow Bunting sightings in the lists of observations received by the compiler. Several observers commented on the reduced numbers of birds, especially Evening Grosbeaks, visiting feeders in the higher elevations south of Buffalo. Conversely, the mild weather has encouraged a number of individuals of "half hardy" species to attempt to winter on the Niagara Frontier. On January 2nd, Morgan Jones and Terry Mahoney found a Long-billed Marsh Wren skulking in a briar tangle at the edge of a marsh on Tarbox Road in the Town of Arkwright in Chautauqua County. A Brown Thrasher continued to visit the feeder at the home of Doris and Lou Burton on John Street in Belmont and three wintering Eastern Bluebirds were seen by Odmond Olsen and Raymond Parkes at the edge of a wooded swamp on Feeder Road at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on January 24th. A Chipping Sparrow visited the feeder of Tom Harper in Darien Center in Genesee County in January. Doug Carlson also reported a Chipping Sparrow at a feeder on Hamlet Street in Dunkirk on January 2nd. On January 21st, Alene and Paul

Smith of Forestville identified two Savannah Sparrows among the House Sparrows, Goldfinches, Chickadees and other birds visiting feeders at a residence on N.Y. Route #39 in the Town of Hanover in Chautauqua County. The birds were also seen on the following day.

Gull watchers on the Niagara Frontier found two new locations to visit in their quest of rare and uncommon larids this winter. On January 3rd, Robert Andrie and his party visited a landfill garbage disposal area on the Mountain Road near Niagara Falls, Ontario where they saw 1,000 gulls including three Glaucous Gulls. A second landfill dump located off Route #402 just east of Brock University at St. Catharines, Ontario had a population of about 2,000 gull visitors including six Glaucous Gulls, two first-winter Iceland Gulls and one adult Iceland Gull of the Kumlien's race. On January 2nd, Bob Klips spent two enjoyable hours at the overlook at the Sir Adam Beck Hydroelectric generating plant just west of Queenston, Ontario watching the gulls in their hundreds flying and resting in the gorge of the Niagara River below. Klips identified two Glaucous Gulls, a Thayer's Gull and a "queer" gull, possibly a Herring x Glaucous hybrid, flying among the myriad Herring and Ring-billed Gulls gathered there. His greatest thrill was the sight of two Lesser Black-backed Gulls, one a full adult of the subspecies Larus fuscus graellsii with the characteristic slate-grey, rather than black, mantle and yellow legs and the other, a second-winter bird with a uniformly darker slate-grey mantle with a brownish cast, dark-tipped bill and darker yellow legs. Both birds were seen flying in the gorge and perched atop a building at the water's edge on the Canadian side of the river. On January 12th, Bob Andrie visited this site with a number of observers including Dr. Charles Smith of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology who was in the area to speak at the Buffalo Ornithological Society meeting that evening. An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull, seen at this location at that time, was also L. f. graellsii.

Many other interesting birds were seen during January. Tom Harper reported that seven Short-eared Owls and nine Northern Harriers were observed in one field on Molasses Hill Road in the Town of Alexander in Genesee County in early January. On January 15th, Bob Andrie and others visited this field but they could locate only two Short-eared Owls and two Northern Harriers. Andrie observed one of the owls which was quartering about the field in daylight, stoop and catch a small mammal which it carried to a fence post for a moment before resuming its flight. As it became airborne, the owl was attacked by a male Northern Harrier which forced it to drop its prey which the hawk then retrieved in the manner of a Bald Eagle forcing an Osprey to surrender a fish. Wintering American Robins were more in evidence than last season. A flock of 35 birds attracted local attention in early January roosting in shrubbery at the Kenmore West Senior High School in the Town of Tonawanda while feeding on the berries of Mountain-ash trees and other ornamental plants in the neighborhood. Wavel and Maxine Barber counted 34 robins in a flock at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on January 2nd. Also on January 2nd, a flock of 500 Cedar Waxwings was seen at the airport at Dunkirk, New York.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

JANUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

F -- Indicates first record for the migration.

L -- Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) -- Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Jan.	8	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew et al
"	"	9	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	13,22	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	28	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Horned Grebe	"	1	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	2,6	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	5	1 Barcelona Harbor	Mosher
"	"	8	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew et al
Pied-billed Grebe	"	1,28	7,4 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
"	"	2,13	7,5 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	14,21,28	1,1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Great Blue Heron	"	7	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Whistling Swan	"	11-31	3-10 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Canada Goose	"	2	2400 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
"	"	2	65 Cassadaga Lake	Bowser
"	"	3,11,17	25,25,25 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	4,12,24	325,215,90 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	14	400 Beaver Island St. Pk.	Hess
"	"	16	27 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
"	"	18	200 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	22	18 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	29	17 Celoron	Mosher
Gadwall	"	22	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
"	"	29	3 Celoron	Mosher
"	"	31	6 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Hess
Pintail	"	16	12 Buckhorn Is. St. Pk.	Thill, Reckhow
"	"	30	5 Niagara Falls	Klabunde
Green-w. Teal	"	9	2 Niagara Falls	Andrle et al
"	"	30	2 Niagara Falls	Klabundes
Redhead	"	20	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Ring-necked Duck	"	8	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew et al
<u>Barrow's Goldeneye</u>	"	8,23	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
"	"	14	1 Beaver Island St. Pk.	Hess
Hooded Merganser	"	2	21 Mayville	Rew, Buck
"	"	21	1 Buffalo Harbor	Thill, Andrle
"	"	27	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	31	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	1,3	1,1 Town of Wales	Rosches
"	"	5-15	1 Town of Wales	Rosches

Volume 49, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

Sharp-sh. Hawk	Jan.	9-31	1 Fredonia	Moshers
(cont.)	"	12	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	13	1 Buffalo	Klepfer
	"	18,19	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	23	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	29	1 Lake Erie St. Pk.	Rew
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	2	1 Town of Arkwright	Benton
	"	2	1 Dunkirk	Baglia
	"	3-26	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	12	1 Fredonia	Baglia, Mosher
	"	13	1 Buffalo	Thill
	"	17	1 Buffalo	Andrle
	"	17	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	20	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	22	2 Scio	Pitzrick
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	1	1 Kent Switch	Rew
	"	2	1 Fredonia	Kumlers
	"	4	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	6	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	15	1 Town of Attica	Andrle et al
	"	30	1 Randolph	Rew, Buck
Northern Harrier	"	11	2 Town of Alexander	Harper
	"	15	2 Town of Alexander	Andrle et al
	"	28	1 Town of Wilson	Klabundes
American Coot	"	1-28	18-22 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	2	18 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher et al
Killdeer	"	6	1 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	9	2 Niagara Falls	Andrle
	"	30	1 Niagara Falls	Klabunde
Glaucous Gull	"	3	6 St. Catharines, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	8	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	8	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Rew et al
	"	21	1 Buffalo Harbor	Thill, Andrle
	"	30	1 Niagara Falls	Klabundes
Iceland Gull	"	3	3 St. Catharines, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	30	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
<u>Lesser Black-b. Gull</u>	"	2	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Klips
		(one adult, one 2nd winter bird)		
	"	12	1 Adam Beck Hydro	Andrle et al
Bonaparte's Gull	"	1	1800 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	11	500 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	28	600 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
		(maximum counts for month)		
Little Gull	"	8	1 Queenston, Ont.	Rew et al
	"	12	1 Queenston, Ont.	Andrle et al
Belted Kingfisher	"	1	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1	4 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	1	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
	"	1	1 South Dayton	Rew, Buck
	"	1	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville

Volume 49, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

Belted Kingfisher	Jan.	1	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Ruff
(cont.)	"	6	1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	10	1 Scio	Burtions
	"	22	1 Belmont	Burtions
	"	30	1 Randolph	Rew, Buck
Snowy Owl	"	9	1 Buffalo Harbor	Rew
	"	10	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	22-28	1 Town of Wheatfield	Burch
	"	29	1 Town of Wheatfield	Klabundes
Short-eared Owl	"	1	5 Dunkirk Airport	Kumlers
	"	11	1 Town of Alexander	Harper
	"	15	2 Town of Alexander	Andrle et al
Common Flicker	"	2,12	1,2 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	11	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	29	1 Kenmore	Thill
	"	31	1 Bertie Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-31	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	1-31	1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher
Horned Lark	"	18	20 Town of Lockport	D'Anna, Potter
(E.a. praticola)	"	25	7 Town of Wales	Rosches
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	2 Orchard Park (f)	Saville
	"	1-31	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick et al
	"	1-31	1 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
	"	1-31	2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1-28	1-2 Fredonia (f)	Mosher
	"	1-25	1-3 Belmont	Burtions
	"	1	1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	1-29	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
	"	5-20	1 Eggertsville	Hulls
Carolina Wren	"	2	1 Chautauqua Inst.	Rew
Mockingbird	"	21	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	21	1 Ransomville	D'Anna, Potter
	"	23	1 Grand Island	Burches
	"	30	1 Lewiston	Klabundes
Brown Thrasher	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtions
American Robin	"	1-11	3 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	2	35 Town of Tonawanda	Thills
	"	2	34 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
	"	3	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	9	1 Hinsdale	D'Anna
	"	12	11 Dunkirk	Baglia, Mosher
	"	16	6 Grand Island	Thill, Reckhow
	"	22	11 Tuscorora Ind. Res.	D'Anna
	"	22,31	27,2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	24	15 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	29	29 Town of Stockton	Mosher
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	3,10,23,25	2,5,1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	2	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	8	2 Hinsdale	D'Anna

Volume 49, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

Golden-cr. Kinglet Jan.	11	6 Olean	Pitzrick
(cont.)	16	2 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	18	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	20	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosches
"	22	1 Town of Porter	D'Anna
"	29	2 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
"	31	4 Alfred	Klingensmith
Cedar Waxwing	2	500 Dunkirk Airport	Gula, Sanden
(maximum count for month)			
Northern Shrike	1	1 Stockton	Rew, Buck
"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
"	2	1 Town of Arkwright	Gagne, Sundell
"	14	1 Grand Island	Hess
"	15,19	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	22	1 Lewiston	D'Anna
Yellow-r. Warbler	1	20 Fredonia	Baglia
"	2	15 Fredonia	Kumlers
"	4	1 Town of Westfield	Rew
Eastern Meadowlark	2	3 Fredonia	Lyfords
Red-w. Blackbird	1	165 Kent Switch	Rew
"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
"	11	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	19	15 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna
"	28	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
Brown-h. Cowbird	1	28 Kent Switch	Rew
"	11	6 Kenmore (f)	Thills
Evening Grosbeak	1-22	1-39 Scio	Pitzrick
"	1-31	2-15 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	1-31	3-21 Alfred	Brooks
"	1-31	20-30 Belmont	Burtens
"	6,8,13	25,12,3 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	10	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	18	10 Town of Holland	Becker
House Finch	1-31	5 Orchard Park	Saville
"	1-31	20-80 Depew (f)	Barbers
"	1-31	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	1-31	1-30 Lewiston (f)	Klabundes
"	1-31	42-78 Hamburg (f)	Rew
"	1-31	20-30 Belmont	Burtens
"	1-31	15-30 Eggertsville	Hulls
"	1-31	1-20 Elma	Forsberg
"	1-22	22-58 Scio	Pitzrick
"	12-26	35 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
American Goldfinch	1-25	125 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	1-31	100 Darien Center (f)	Harper
(maximum counts for month)			
Rufous-s. Towhee	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
Savannah Sparrow	21-22	2 Town of Hanover	Smith
Field Sparrow	1,6,22	2,2,2 Scio	Pitzrick
"	5	3 Fredonia	Mosher
"	30	1 Randolph	Rew

Volume 49, No. 2 "January Noteworthy Records" cont.

White-cr. Sparrow	Jan.	1-31	1 Belmont	Burttons
	"	3	3 Fredonia	Mosher
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	4 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-31	3 Belmont	Burttons
	"	1-31	6-10 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1,6,22	2,2,1 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	20	4 Fredonia (f)	Mosher
	"	21,22	20,11 Tuscarora Ind. Res.	D'Anna, Potter
Swamp Sparrow	"	30	2 Randolph	Rew
Song Sparrow	"	1-31	2 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-31	2 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna, Potter
	"	1-31	2 Belmont	Burttons
	"	1-31	1 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	1-22	1-3 Scio	Pitzrick
	"	19-31	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	26	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Snow Bunting	"	16	3 Point Gratiot	Rew, Buck

Other Species Seen
in January: Mallard, Black Duck, American Wigeon, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Oldsquaw, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Red-tailed Hawk, Kestrel,, Ruffed Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasant, Turkey, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Starling, House Sparrow, Cardinal, Purple Finch, Dark-eyed Junco, Tree Sparrow.

Total species, subspecies and hybrids. 91

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

December 5th - Niagara River Field Trip

While two sandpipers walked and fluttered about, taking invertebrates from the wet rocks amid the swiftly moving water of the rapids above Niagara Falls, 15 birders far away on shore looked at them, wondering, "Purples or Dunlins? Ripples? ... Are they still there?" Consensus: At least one Purple Sandpiper, a nice rare bird, rendering this already quite pleasant trip definitely worthwhile.

On a record warm Sunday this party of B.O.S. members and friends had already enjoyed some of the usual wintering ducks back at Lake Erie, such as Bufflehead and Goldeneye. From the parking lot across from the Old Stone Fort we had gotten a leisurely view of a White-winged Scoter, while a flock of Oldsquaw flew closely by. Looking like holiday ornaments, three Red-breasted Nuthatches adorned a Norway Spruce tree on the Fort grounds. North of the Peace Bridge, but nearby, we had hit the usual spots where Bonaparte's Gulls and puddle ducks congregate -- no rarities, but nice comfortable viewing.

December 5th - Niagara River Field Trip cont.

High-tailing it to the Falls area we passed a few hawks and a small roadside flock of Cowbirds, arriving at the Chippewa water control structure to see a few thousand dozing diving ducks: Canvasback, Scaup and Redhead, in that order of abundance. At the rapids alongside Dufferin Island we saw, in addition to the aforementioned sandpipers, a first-winter Glaucous Gull which at close range plainly demonstrated the sharply dark-tipped bill which best distinguishes it from an Iceland Gull of similar plumage. Also, our old friend the Barrow's Goldeneye was seen again, year number five, presuming it is the same bird.

Then we were off to places downriver. The Falls had a loon, but not much in the gull department. We hiked a little at the Horticultural Station, and had views of gardens, trees, and captive Mandarin Ducks and Wood Ducks. At the Sir Adam Beck Hydro Station, the world's best bird feeder for gulls, we saw an adult Iceland Gull which seemed to lack gray markings in the wing tips. However, it was suggested that maybe all our Iceland Gulls are of the kumlieni race (Baffin Island population), even if they don't look like it; the Greenland-breeding glaucoides race winters mainly or exclusively in Europe. A friendly argument ensued about the identity of one "queer" gull, definitely a Herring x Thayer's x Iceland hybrid!

Queenston gave us two each of Little Gulls and Belted Kingfishers. And Fort Niagara gave us rain, which had politely waited for the end of the day. Under raincoats and umbrellas, some of us studied the day's only Ring-necked Duck, while others successfully solved the problem of finding care for a friendly injured dog, trusting and lovable, which had approached us for help. Once again, the "Mighty Niagara" proved a nice place to be, birding with friends on a late autumn day.

Bob Klips

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of December 8, 1982

The meeting was opened by President Wavel Barber, and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Membership: John Cochrane was approved for Associate Membership.

Fran Rew requested assistance in reviewing the Society's filed verification reports, to establish write-up dates for the new Date Guide, in preparation.

Wavel Barber reported on a recent meeting with the Director of the Science Museum and representatives of the various Museum Affiliates, focusing on how the current renovation will affect the B.O.S.

Bob Klips made a motion that the Society's old idle printing press be given to the Fine Arts Department at SUCB. The motion passed. Bob Brock expressed "thanks" for the Department.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of December 8, 1982 cont.

Program: A slide travelogue of exotic places, focusing on their wildlife. Ed Williams shared his experiences of Africa and Australia, Mike Zebehazy showed us Tobago, and Art and Olga Rosche treated us to slides and anecdotes about Trinidad and Peru.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

REPORT OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH B.O.S. CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

December 19, 1982

Compiled by Bill Bogacki

A good Christmas Count resulted from the hard work of 37 participants in the Buffalo Circle. Seventy-eight species, plus one Mallard x Black Duck hybrid were counted. 74,028 individuals were reported in the 16 territories.

The Oldsquaw was missing for the first time ever and the Horned Grebe was missing for the second time in ten years. The Barrow's Goldeneye was reported for the sixth time ever and the Savannah Sparrow was recorded for the first time ever. Four species representing all-time highs were recorded as follows: Canada Goose (400), Purple Finch (25), House Finch (28), and Song Sparrow (43).

Other interesting facts and figures of the 54th Buffalo Circle Christmas Count are reported below.

Date: December 19, 1982

Area: Centering on Grand Island, including both branches of the Niagara River and adjacent territory -- from the Gorge below the Falls to Fort Erie and Buffalo.

Weather: The sky was overcast all day. Temperatures ranged from an early morning low of 28 degrees (F.) to an afternoon high of 34 degrees (F.), with winds from the west at 5-15 mph. The Niagara River was mostly free of ice, but many smaller bodies of water, especially ponds and inlets, were ice-covered. The snow cover ranged from one to four inches with heavier collections in some places varying with topography and ground cover.

Coverage: Thirty-seven observers in 16 parties made observations from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Party-hours were 139 (60 on foot and 70 by car), plus 3 hours at feeders and 9 hours owling. Party-miles were 815 (66 on foot and 737 by car).

Fifty-fourth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

Territories and Observers: (leaders underlined)

- A. Canada: Rainbow Bridge south to Welland River and Niagara River west to M.C.R.R., Portage Road and area boundary. Robert Andrie. 40 species; 12,650 individuals.
- B. Canada: Welland River south to Black Creek and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way and area boundary. Richard Byron, Arthur Partridge, Bobby E. Tomasi. 28 species; 3,657 individuals.
- C. Canada: Queen Elizabeth Way west to area boundary and south to Bowen Road. Arthur Schaffner. 23 species; 617 individuals.
- D. Canada: Black Creek south to the Peace Bridge and the Niagara River west to the Queen Elizabeth Way. Frances Rew, Audrey Horbett, Pauline and Robert Schwartz. 34 species; 3,608 individuals.
- E. Canada: Bowen Road south to area boundary and east to Queen Elizabeth Way and Niagara River. Harold Axtell, Blayne Farnan, Kenneth MacDonald, Robert Sommerville. 33 species; 1,223 individuals.
- F. Niagara Falls: Porter Road, Hyde Park Boulevard, Pine Avenue and Main Street south to Niagara River, including Goat and Cayuga Islands, and east to Military Road. Karen Renning, Bill Vaughn. 34 species; 34,213 individuals.
- G. North Tonawanda: Military Road southeast to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River northeast to area boundary. Marie Wendling, Wavel Barber. 26 species; 791 individuals.
- H. Tonawanda: Sheridan Drive north to N.Y. State Barge Canal and Niagara River east to area boundary. Doug Happ, Joe Chosen, Andrew Tupolnycky. 34 species; 1,319 individuals.
- J. Buffalo: Sheridan Drive east and south to area boundary, west to Niagara River. Barbara Lindeman. 20 species; 811 individuals.
- K. Grand Island: West of Stony Point Road, north of Huth and Long Roads to the Niagara River. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Fitch Cindy, Leonard Pepkowitz. 31 species; 3,330 individuals.
- L. Grand Island: Huth and Long Roads south to Whitehaven Road, and Stony Point Road west to the Niagara River. Lincoln Nutting, Bill Burch. 26 species; 1,756 individuals.
- M. Grand Island: East of Stony Point Road and north of Whitehaven Road to the Niagara River. Mike Zebehazy. 36 species; 858 individuals.

Fifty-fourth N.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

- N. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road and Baseline Road west to Niagara River. Robert Brock, James Fish. 24 species 789 individuals.
- O. Grand Island: Whitehaven Road south to Love Road, and Baseline Road east to the Niagara River. Peggy Daniels, Julia Wells, Barbara Walker. 26 species; 872 individuals.
- P. Grand Island: Love Road south to Spaulding Road from the East Branch to the West Branch of the Niagara River. Bill Bogacki, Dick Christensen. 33 species: 2,948 individuals.
- Q. Grand Island: South of Spaulding Road to the Niagara River. Willard & Alice McKale. 34 species; 4,517 individuals.

Species Recorded: With reference to the species count, letters in parentheses indicate the territories where the birds were found, in those cases where they were reported from three or fewer territories.

Common Loon	5
Horned Grebe	0 Second time in 10 years. No record.
Great Blue Heron	2 (M,P)
Whistling Swan	8 (Q)
Canada Goose	400 (D,Q) High: previous high 450 in 1938.
Mallard	1266
Black Duck	235
Gadwall	38 Low
Pintail	42
Green-winged Teal	4 (F)
American Wigeon	51 (A,F) Low
Redhead	264 (A,F)
Ring-necked Duck	1 (A)
Canvasback	6356
Greater Scaup	2106
Lesser Scaup	21
Common Goldeneye	2395
Barrow's Goldeneye	1 (A) Sixth time ever.
Bufflehead	573 Low
Oldsquaw	0 First time no record.
Black Scoter	1 (A)
Hooded Merganser	3 (A)
Common Merganser	3367
Red-breasted Merganser	36
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4
Cooper's Hawk	1 (D)
Red-tailed Hawk	48

Volume 49, No. 2 "Organization Activities" cont.

Fifty-fourth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

Red-shouldered Hawk	1 (F)
Rough-legged Hawk	3 (D,H,L)
Marsh Hawk	1 (B)
American Kestrel	24
Ruffed Grouse	5 (C,E)
Ring-necked Pheasant	13 (F,H,J)
Killdeer	2 (F)
Glaucous Gull	4 (A)
Iceland Gull (<u>L.g. kumlieni</u>)	1 (A)
Great Black-backed Gull	180
Herring Gull	7441
Ring-billed Gull	4412
Bonaparte's Gull	2351
Rock Dove	687
Mourning Dove	278
Screech Owl	6
Great Horned Owl	5
Belted Kingfisher	3 (D,J)
Common Flicker	5
Red-headed Woodpecker	2 (E)
Hairy Woodpecker	7
Downy Woodpecker	44 Low
Blue Jay	241
Common Crow	64 Low
Black-capped Chickadee	338
White-breasted Nuthatch	27
Red-breasted Nuthatch	5
Brown Creeper	10
Winter Wren	1 (Q)
Carolina Wren	1 (A)
Mockingbird	0 First time in 10 years.
Brown Thrasher	1 (P)
American Robin	44
Golden-crowned Kinglet	31
Cedar Waxwing	28
Northern Shrike	2 (B,C)
Starling	37,861
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1 (F)
House Sparrow	1428
Eastern Meadowlark	1 (C)
Red-winged Blackbird	20
Rusty Blackbird	2 (N)
Common Grackle	1 (Q)
Brown-headed Cowbird	28
Cardinal	151
Purple Finch	25 High
House Finch	28 (E,F,H) All time high.
American Goldfinch	200

Fifty-fourth B.O.S. Christmas Bird Count, cont.

Savannah Sparrow	1 (B) First time ever.
Dark-eyed Junco	231
Tree Sparrow	365
White-throated Sparrow	132
Swamp Sparrow	3 (B)
Song Sparrow	<u>43</u> High
Totals:	74,028 individuals
	78 species

The compiler thanks all who contributed to the Count's fine success.

79 Louise Drive, Cheektowaga, NY 14227

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of January 12, 1983

The meeting was opened by President Wavel Barber.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Harold Mitchell.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Bill Burch passed along a request from Gertrude Webster for help on a Harold Mitchell tribute in Audubon Outlook and Bob Klips requested the same for The Prothonotary. Fran Rew seeks help on the review of verification reports for the next Date Guide, and Marc Chelemer asked for assistance with the annual dinner.

Membership: The Committee made a motion approving the following for Active Membership: Marc Chelemer, Dr. David Cooper, Thomas Harper, William Townsend, Barbara Walker, Julia Wells, John Wright and Margaret Wright. The motion passed and all present applauded, "congratulations!"

Program: "The Seedy Side of Feeding Birds," by Dr. Charles Smith of the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology. The apparent lack of any ecological effect of feeding birds was revealed and analyzed in terms of evolution. Different seed mixtures were compared regarding price and desirability, with the latter quality best decided by the birds themselves. The recently appearing black or oil sunflower seed compares well with the traditional striped type. Different feeder designs were compared, especially with respect to squirrel-proofedness; a hanging type with a clear hemispheric overhanging globe is nearly impenetrable. And slides of several similar looking finches as well as some more obvious feeder visitors topped off a very educational, enjoyable program.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Karen E. Renning

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of January 26, 1983

The 923rd regular meeting of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, with twenty-three members in attendance, was opened at 8:10 p.m. by President Wavel Barber.

Program: Marc Chelemer on Bowerbirds. Birds of Paradise and Bowerbirds are two groups in which there have evolved elaborate rituals of courtship and display. In the former group, males are strikingly plumaged, while the comparatively plain Bowerbirds build and maintain gaudy huts, or bowers, using a wide range of materials. Interesting details of this behavior and its possible significance in Darwinian evolutionary terms were elucidated in this scintillating and very informative talk.

Bill Bogacki gave his report of the Christmas Bird Count.

The minutes of the prior meeting and the Treasurer's report were approved as read. Marc Chelemer listed the upcoming programs for the remainder of 1983 and Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson, outlined the field trips through the end of March.

Walter Klabunde commented on the lack of litter at Burntship Creek Area and Bill Burch will try to find out who is responsible and extend our "Thanks!"

A motion was made and passed authorizing the Statisticians to purchase transfer cases costing up to \$25.00 for the storage of Verification Reports.

Fran Rew announced that the 1983 meeting of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs, Inc., will be held on October 8, 9 and 10, 1983 in Fredonia, sponsored by the Lake Erie Bird Club, and urged Buffalo Ornithological members to attend the Paper Sessions and/or Field Trips.

Marian Dornhaffer reminded us of the newspaper article referring to the request by the Erie County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs asking for hunting, fishing and trapping rights on certain county park and/or forest lands and suggested that letters be written to the Commissioner of Parks protesting this action.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Maxine Barber for Karen
E. Renning, Secretary

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The following people have recently been nominated and approved for Associate Membership.

John Cochrane - Assoc. 12/82
112 William Street
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150
692-8135

Jane Heyer - Assoc. 2/83
296 Westchester Blvd.
Kenmore, N.Y. 14217
875-3318

Welcome New Members cont.

Wayne Gall - Assoc. 2/83
336 Bellevue
Depew, N.Y. 14043
681-8238

Mrs. Merle Malone - Assoc. 10/82
828 D Robin Road
W. Amherst, N.Y. 14228
689-0451

Paul Hess - Assoc. 10/82
2131 Niagara Street
Buffalo, N.Y. 14207
877-0005

Mrs. Ann Miraniam - Assoc. 2/83
553 Morgan Drive
Lewiston, N.Y. 14092
754-4788

Congratulations also to our new Active Members (see January 12 Meeting Minutes).

BIRDING AT CHURCHILL, 1982

Julia Wells

Last summer I went on Gus Yaki's Nature Travel tour to Churchill, Manitoba. There were 4 Australians, 6 Canadians and 3 Americans in the group.

Although it was the middle of June, spring was just arriving at Churchill. From June 14th to 18th the temperatures ranged from about 30 to 65 degrees F. There was a considerable amount of fog the first few days but it did not seem to slow the migration of thousands of Artic and Red-throated Loons.

The most common bird in the town of Churchill was the White-crowned Sparrow while outside of the village the Savannah Sparrow seemed to be everywhere. Green-winged Teal, Wigeon and Shovelers were common on the many ponds and creeks. Northern and Red Phalarope were abundant on small ponds. Dowitchers, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwits, American Golden Plovers, Stilt and Buff-breasted Sandpipers were among the many shorebirds in the area. Oldsquaw, Common and King Eider, and White-winged, Surf and Common Scoters were plentiful on the Churchill River.

A more recent attraction at Churchill the past few years has been the Ross' Gull which has been nesting there. This year, I believe, 6 pairs of Ross' Gulls had been sighted but only one pair seemed to be nesting. Since last year's nest was stolen, the nest was being watched around the clock by students doing summer research at Churchill.

One of the birding features at Churchill that I liked was being in the nesting territory for many birds. On one of the warmer days Snipe were heard everywhere performing their courtship display, rising high in the air and diving down to just above the tree tops. Small sandpipers were making an "eeing" sound while hovering about 10 feet above the sandy barren areas along the shores of the Churchill River. I was surprised to see Snipe, Dowitchers and other shorebirds perching on the tops of trees.

Birding at Churchill, 1982 cont.

A Red-necked Stint was one of our first sightings. It was almost completely ignored by the Australians who were more interested in our North American birds. We saw the Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers in the river area. As we were watching the Parasitic Jaeger it took a fish away from one of the gulls.

Some of the new birds for me were Smith's and Lapland Longspurs, Ross' Gull, Orange-crowned Warbler, Canada Jay, Harlequin Duck, Clay-colored, Fox, Harris and LeConte's Sparrows, Willow Ptarmigan, Sabine's Gull and Sandhill Crane.

The Eskimo Museum in Churchill is a "must" to see as is the Nature and Science Museum at Winnipeg. We spent a day in and around Winnipeg led by Gus and David Hatch, a resident of Winnipeg. Winnipeg appears to be an excellent birding area. Unfortunately, there was a heavy downpour in the afternoon which ended our birding trip, but not before seeing a Ferruginous Hawk. Marbled Godwits, Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Western Kingbird and Western Meadowlarks were seen at the airport.

I liked Churchill and would like to go back again someday, especially when it is warmer and the flowers are in bloom. It is especially nice for birding as there are at least 20 hours of daylight. Although it was cooler than I had expected, at least there were no swarms of mosquitos that the artic is known to have in the summer.

133 North Forest Road
Williamsville, NY 14221

NOTES

Nature Books Available

Dick Christensen (632-7762) has extra copies of the following books available for sale at the prices indicated (plus postage, if any): Bird Families of the World, Harrison (\$15.00); A Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies, Peterson (paperback, \$7.00); Works of John Burroughs (17 volumes, \$60.00); Habitat Guide to Birding, McElroy (\$7.00); The Encyclopedia of Mushrooms, Dickinson/Lucas (\$15.00); Birds of the West Indies, 4th Ed., Bond (\$10.00); Evolution Illustrated by Waterfowl, Lack (\$5.00).

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

April 13th: Marc J. Chelemer will lead a symposium on Identification of Sparrow Species. Individual members will make short presentations followed by a discussion period.

- April 27th: Representatives of the New York State Power Authority will comment on the possible impact to waterfowl population at the Power reservoirs as the result of planned construction work.
- May 11th: Vivian Pitzrick and Elizabeth Brooks, Nest Finding and Identification. Vivian and Elizabeth, from the Allegany Bird Club, will disclose some of the "trade secrets" that have given them such an admirable record in the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.
- May 25th: Bradley A. Lown, Recent Changes in the A.O.U. Check-List. "The Thirty-Fourth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds," will be discussed, particularly as to the changes in taxonomic order and with explanations of the scientific names. And, Tom Harper will give a report on the April Bird Count.

ANNUAL MEETING -- BANQUET ANNOUNCED

The Buffalo Ornithological Society will hold its annual meeting - banquet on Friday, October 14, 1983 at the Park Lane Manor House, Gates Circle, Buffalo.

Dr. William O. Robinson, of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, will be the featured speaker.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairperson, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- April 10th: April Bird Count. Compiler: Tom Harper (547-9563).
- April 24th: Braddock Bay, joint trip with the Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Mike Zebehazy (BOS) (655-4777); Warren Lloyd (GOS) (265-0281); Mary Ann Sunderlin (GOS) (671-2210). We will meet at Citibank, Transitown Plaza, at 7:00 a.m.; to join the GOS at Braddock Bay at 9:30 a.m.
- May 1st: Beamer Conservation Area, Grimsby, Ontario; for Hawk Migration. Leader: Walter Klabunde (754-4424). We will meet in the parking area on the U.S. side of the Lewiston-Queenston bridge at 8:30 a.m. for car pooling.
- May 7-8th: Pymatuning weekend. Joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society. Saturday at Presque Isle (Erie); Saturday dinner at Linesville, PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-5215) for reservations.

Volume 49, No. 2 "Field Trips" cont.

May 15th: May Bird Count. Compiler: Marc Chelemer (885-0474).

NOTE: The October Bird Count has been rescheduled from October 9, 1983 to October 16, 1983 as the Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, sponsored this year by the Lake Erie Bird Club, is being held in Fredonia, NY October 8, 9 and 10, 1983.

For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairperson (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

MARCH 1983

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

NUMBER 3

THE MONTH

MAY 20 1983

In February, the Niagara Frontier continued to bask in the mildest winter weather we have enjoyed since 1953. For the fifth consecutive month, temperatures remained above average with snow depth for the period measured at the Greater Buffalo International Airport only 5.5 inches, 12.5 inches below normal. Precipitation for February measured only 1.30 inches, 1.10 inches below normal while the average temperature was 29.6° (F), 5.1° above the norm. Except for one week of seasonally normal weather between February 4th and 11th, daily temperatures were above normal. There were no major weather disturbances during the period. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Several flocks of Canada Geese continued to winter on the Niagara River between Fort Erie, Ontario and Navy Island during February. The status of this goose in our study area has changed dramatically since the publication of Birds of the Niagara Frontier Region (Beardslee & Mitchell, 1965) where it is described as a "rare winter visitor." As most active field observers are aware, flocks of wintering Canada Geese are becoming commonplace in New York State. An article in The Buffalo News on March 13th, 1983 discusses the change in the migration patterns of this species over the last decade. Large numbers of Canada Geese are now overwintering in the northeastern United States and the traditional winter feeding grounds of 130,000 Canada Geese at the Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge in North Carolina had just 14,000 birds in residence this season. Most of the loss in the Atlantic Flyway states has been to the state of Maryland where an estimated 570,000 geese were counted in the winter of 1981-82 with New York State second in numbers; an estimated 84,000 Canada Geese overwintered here during that period. This phenomenon virtually ruined the late fall goose hunting in North Carolina and other southern states where it was of some importance to the economies of localities near the Federal and State refuges. It is hypothesized that the migratory changes are due in large part to the heavy planting of such staples as corn. Agricultural acreage devoted to corn in Cayuga and Seneca counties in New York State roughly

doubled between 1975 and 1980. Modern harvesting methods using combines generally leave a residue of 4 or 5 bushels per acre providing food for many wild mammals and birds during winter. Another factor is the heavy planting of winter wheat, a favorite food in the diet of the Canada Goose. The writer and others have noticed geese in fields along the Ontario Plain in winter, especially in eastern Niagara and in Orleans counties in our study area. The Allegany County Bird Club News (vol. XVII:1) for January, 1983 makes reference to a flock of 200 Canada Geese overwintering on the Genesee River near Fillmore, N.Y. and visiting corn fields nearby to feed. All of which brings us to the vexing question that faces the compiler and the Society's statisticians in trying to determine the arrival dates of the first migrant geese from Chesapeake Bay and other wintering grounds. On February 12th, John Morse reported 3,000 geese flew over the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, apparently on their way to Lake Ontario as they did not join the birds wintering there. From historical data, this is a very early date for first spring migrants of this species in Western New York as is Frances Rew's count of 5,000 geese at the Refuge on February 16th. While a case may be made for the mild temperatures inducing an early migration, it is noteworthy that by month's end, no Whistling Swans had made their appearance as migrants while formerly they had accompanied or even preceded the geese in arriving here. Are these large counts of early geese reflecting local movements of birds wintering here?

The first noticeable influx of waterfowl and other early spring migrants appears to have occurred over the weekend of February 19-20th. Ollie Meddaugh, manager of the State Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Niagara and Orleans counties, reported the first migrant Pintail Ducks on the 23rd. Bruce Duncan saw an immature Red-shouldered Hawk in Rainham Township, Ontario on February 19th and a single male Red-winged Blackbird singing, apparently on territory in North Cayuga Township (Ont.) on that same date. A male Red-wing and a Common Grackle appeared at the feeder of Alice and Bill McKale in Eggertsville on the 19th; a flock of 50 Red-wings were seen by the Moshers in Fredonia on February 21st. Oddly enough, by month's end, as noted above, only a small flock of wintering Whistling Swans, including at least two immature birds were the only records for this species received by the compiler. These swans were seen at various times throughout the month by Ward Klepfer and others on the north shore of Lake Erie from Buffalo Road to Point Abino in the Town of Fort Erie, Ontario. There were no reports of those spectacular flights of icterids and other passerines that are anticipated along the south shore of Lake Erie when a southerly flow of warm air precipitates migratory activity in late February.

Other interesting reports in February include two wintering Dunlins at Three Sisters Islands in Niagara Falls. On February 27th, Alice and Bill McKale were among a group of observers that saw an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull sitting on the ice in the company of a number of Ring-billed and Herring Gulls and an immature Greater Black-backed Gull at the Cayuga Pool overlook at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The bird, with its dark grey-black mantle and distinctive yellow legs was in marked contrast to the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls with which it associated. It was discovered by David Keller in this group of gulls sitting on the ice only 600 feet from the overlook. It was a first record for this species at the Refuge. Bruce Duncan counted 11 Short-eared Owls in Rainham Township west of Dunnville, Ontario, on February 12th. Also on the 12th, Bob Klips

reported a wintering Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in the woods at the site of the Old Erie Beach Amusement Park in the Town of Fort Erie. A Brown Thrasher continued to visit the feeder of Doris and Lou Burton in Belmont in Allegany County during February. A Chipping Sparrow continued to visit the feeder on Hamlet Street in Fredonia from which it was reported by Doug Carlson last month. Esther Becker, in commenting on the brief visitation of eight Evening Grosbeaks to her feeder on February 1st, writes that it was only the second appearance of this species this winter. Usually 30 to 40 grosbeaks appear daily at the Becker feeder from December through March but not in this, the "winter of no finches" on the Niagara Frontier.

Finally, in what may well be the earliest attempted nesting record for this species in New York State, a note published elsewhere in this issue describes a pair of Mourning Doves building a nest in February in an evergreen tree at the residence of Jayne Norcross on Brantwood Road in Snyder. On the 21st, one egg was laid and a second egg on the following day. On March 13th, Mrs. Norcross found a nestling dead under the tree.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217

FEBRUARY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Horned Grebe	Feb.	19	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Pied-billed Grebe	"	5	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
	"	8	2 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher
Great Blue Heron	"	6-25	1-3 Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
	"	12	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	15	1 Springville	O'Dell
	"	18,23	1,1 Town of Amherst	D'Anna
	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Whistling Swan	"	2,21	10,3 Windmill Pt., Ont.	Klepfer
	"	18	3 Point Abino, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	26	8 Town of Ft. Erie, Ont	Klepfer
Canada Goose	"	3-26	125-349 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	9	100 Beaver Island St. Pk.	Klepfer
	"	12 F	3000 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	16	5000 Iroquois NWR	Rew
	"	22	22 North Boston	O'Dell

Volume 49, No. 3 "February Noteworthy Records" cont.

Canada Goose	Feb.	22	5 Buffalo Harbor	Hess
"	"	23	16 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	27	40 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	28	33 over Lakeview	Hess
(maximum and first counts for migration; many records)				
Gadwall	"	6	25 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
"	"	16	4 Iroquois NWR	Rew
"	17,24,28		4,5,5 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	23	11 Dunkirk Pond	Mosher
"	"	25	1 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
"	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Pintail	"	2	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	16	2 Iroquois NWR	Rew
"	"	27 F	25 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Green-w. Teal	"	6	2 Niagara Falls	Hess
Redhead	"	6	250 Fort Erie, Ont.	Hess
"	"	27 F	5 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Ring-necked Duck	"	27 F	1 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
Hooded Merganser	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	27	1 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	8	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
"	"	11,16	1,1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Cooper's Hawk	"	6,26	1,1 Darien Center	Harper
"	"	10,15	1,1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	13	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
*Red-should. Hawk	"	19 F	1 Rainham Twp., Ont.	Duncan
"	"	27	1 Allenberg Bog	Chapples
"	"	28	2 over Lakeview	Hess
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	6,13,22	1,1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	13	1 Town of Newstead	McKales
"	"	19	3 Rainham Twp., Ont.	Duncan
"	"	19	1 S. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
"	"	27	1 Allenberg Bog	Chapples
Northern Harrier	"	12	2 Rainham Twp., Ont.	Duncan
"	"	27	1 Stromness, Ont.	Chapples
"	"	27	1 W. Bethany Twp.	McKales
American Coot	"	3-28	1-2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	5	25 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
"	"	13,27	1,1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
"	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Rew
Killdeer	"	6	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
"	"	20 F	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
"	"	25	1 Town of Chautauqua	Rew
*Dunlin	"	9	2 Niagara Falls	Klepfer
Glaucous Gull	"	6	5 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
"	"	15	6 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	21	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Klepfer
Lesser Black-b. Gull	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales et al
Bonaparte's Gull	"	4,25	1200,175 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
"	"	15	10 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter

Volume 49, No. 3 "February Noteworthy Records" cont.

Little Gull	Feb.	10,19	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	11,18	1,1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	19	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Snowy Owl	"	3-26	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	14	1 Buffalo Harbor	Hess
	"	19	1 N. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	19	1 S. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
Short-eared Owl	"	6	1 Town of Portland	Moshers
	"	12	11 Rainham Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	27	2 West Bethany Twp.	McKales
Belted Kingfisher	"	14	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	15	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	19,27	1,1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	21	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	26-28	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Common Flicker	"	5	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	6	1 Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
	"	14	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	19	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	19-28	2 Orchard Park	Saville
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-28	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	1-28	1 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	12	2 N. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	20,27	1,1 Tonawanda WMA (f)	McKales
*Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	12	1 N. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	23	4 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	12	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klips
*Horned Lark				
(<u>E.a. alpestris</u>)	"	27	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-28	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
	"	1-28	2 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-28	2 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
Mockingbird	"	6	1 Queenston, Ont.	Hess
	"	15	2 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	15	1 Town of Ft. Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
American Robin	"	15-28	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	15	7 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	15,20,21	2,2,2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	20 F	21 Lake Erie State Pk.	Moshers
	"	22,24	2,2 Buffalo	Hess
	"	23	4 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	28	5 over Lakeview	Hess
(maximum numbers and first counts for migration; many records)				
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	24-28	1-2 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	28	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
Cedar Waxwing	"	15	70 Lakeview	Hess
Northern Shrike	"	4,12	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	6,27	1,2 Lewiston	D'Anna, Potter
	"	14	1 Town of Wales	Rosches
	"	16	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	19	1 Allegany	O'Dell

Volume 49, No. 3 "February Noteworthy Records" cont.

Northern Shrike	Feb.	25	2 Town of Stockton	Rew
	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Harper
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	10	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	20	1 Lyndonville	Becker
	"	20	4-6 Lake Erie State Pk.	Moshers
Eastern Meadowlark	"	15	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
		(found dead)		
Red-w. Blackbird	"	5,8	2,1 Town of Ft. Erie, Ont	Sommerville
	"	14	4 Town of Tonawanda	Hess
	"	19 F	1 N. Cayuga Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	19 F	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	21	50 Fredonia	Moshers
	"	22	150 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
	"	23	150 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Rusty Blackbird	"	15	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
	"	25	13 Town of Chautauqua	Rew
*Common Grackle	"	19 F	1 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	21	75 Fredonia	Moshers
	"	28	165 over Lakeview	Hess
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	4-16	1-2 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	5	50 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	15	10 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	25 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	26	8 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	28	68 over Lakeview	Hess
Evening Grosbeak	"	1	8 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	1-28	2-14 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	1-28	1-18 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	13	7 Tonawanda WMA (f)	McKales
	"	18,19	2,4 Alfred	Klingensmith
House Finch	"	1-28	12-16 Eggertsville (f)	McKales
	"	1-28	9 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-28	4-18 Depew (f)	Barbers
	"	1-28	25 Fredonia (f)	Flory
	"	1-28	10-20 Eggertsville	Hulls
	"	1-10	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	1	2 Town of Holland (f)	Becker
	"	6	86 Scio (f)	Pitzrick
	"	8-27	15-25 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	21	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	28	85 Depew	Barbers
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	1-21	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	11	1 Town of Pomfret	Rew
*Chipping Sparrow	"	1-27	1 Fredonia	Carlson et al
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-28	4 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-28	5-8 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	11	9 Town of Pomfret	Rew
Song Sparrow	"	1-28	1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	1-28	1 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
	"	1-28	2 Orchard Park	Saville

Song Sparrow	Feb.	7	2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	12	1 North Boston	O'Dell
"	"	18	2 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	25 F	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	27-28	1 Orchard Park	O'Dell
"	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	91
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month.	<u>8</u>
Total for year	99

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of February 9, 1983

The 924th meeting of the Society was opened by President Wavel Barber and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Esther Becker, Programs Committee Chairwoman, requested that the leaders of field trips regularly submit a trip species list to the Compiler and also a written description of the outing to the Editor of The Prothonotary.

Bob Klips reported on the status ("down" at present) of the Museum's "Dial-A-Bird" service, which depends upon loaned tape players which haven't always worked well. He suggested that the Society might want to consider purchasing a new answering unit for the Museum, for reasons related to the furtherance of knowledge about birds, support to the Museum, and publicity for the Society. Art Clark has researched the various types of machines on the market, with prices ranging from about \$450 to \$650. These were briefly described. After an open discussion of the tentative proposal, a motion was passed stating that the Society is seriously considering making this gift and directing a representative to meet with the Director of the Museum to find out the Museum's exact needs and any special conditions or uses which might be considered.

Program: "Clark's Nutcracker," a bird quiz devised and presented by Arthur R. Clark, Assistant Curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the Buffalo Museum of Science. This included written puzzlers (multiple guess, matching, etc.). For example:

Which of the following does not refer to Kittiewake:

- a) a black-legged bird
- b) a gull
- c) a red-legged bird
- d) an imitation of their call
- e) all of the above refer to Kittiewake.

Also there were specimens. We got close up views of many mounted mystery birds, identifying (or trying to), for example, a Willet in relaxed pose

Program: with wings folded, a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and a female Common (cont.) Eider. A study skin of a Flicker was wrapped so that only its bill and the tip of its tail were visible, but it was still remarkably distinctive. Many were fooled by a detached Starling wing; it seemed more speckled and vibrant than it does on the bird, in memory. Other specimens were relatively easy, and most were quite beautiful. All present were pleased and challenged.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Karen E. Renning

Ontario Plains Field Trip

Harriette and Walter Klabunde

On February 20, twenty-four eager birders set out to find birds along the Lake Ontario plains. The mild weather was most pleasant. We were surprised to find the landscape along the Robert Moses Parkway from Lewiston to Youngstown transformed into a dazzling fairyland under a covering of hoar frost.

A walk at Fort Niagara produced 2 Flickers, 1 Red-bellied Woodpecker, 8 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 1 Great Horned Owl, 2 White-breasted Nuthatch, and 35 Cedar Waxwings.

At the Lewiston dock later in the morning the ice-free river resembled a summer scene with the numerous fishing parties out in their small boats. The usual large flock of Oldsquaw was reduced to 5-6 ducks, but we had good views of two Little Gulls flying back and forth together among the few Ring-billed and Bonaparte's Gulls.

Driving up and down the back roads between Lewiston and Rt. 63 along the lake we saw 11 Red-tailed Hawks, 2 Marsh Hawks, 19 Kestrels, some 37 Rock Doves, 27 Mourning Doves, 9 Horned Larks, 5 Blue Jays, 34 Common Crows, 2 Chickadees, Starlings, House Sparrows, 1 Cardinal, and 16 tree Sparrows. The usual feeder birds at the Klabundes' were reduced to 3 Goldfinch. A few Goldeneye were seen on Lake Ontario and a flock of Mallard Ducks estimated at 45 were seen off Shadigee at Rt. 63.

Many of the birders returned by way of the Iroquois Wildlife Refuge where a few Canada Geese were seen feeding in the fields. A Mockingbird was seen on our return to Lewiston and a Downy Woodpecker and 3 House Finches were at our feeders.

This was a very different field trip for late February!

4923 Creek Road
Lewiston, NY 14092

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING OF February 23, 1983

The meeting was opened by President Wavel Barber and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Membership: Wayne Gall, Jane Heyer and Ann Miraniam were proposed and approved for Associate Membership.

Marge Wright reminded people about the upcoming March Wintering Bird Survey and Tom Harper asked for participation in the April Bird Count.

Bob Klips reported on the meeting that he, Wavel Barber and Arthur Clark had with Donald Herold, Director of the Buffalo Museum of Science, concerning the Museum's "Dial-A-Bird" Service, and the Society's interest in providing a new telephone answering unit for its use. The various types of machines were reviewed, with the unit of choice being a Ford Industries Code-A-Phone 111, costing \$650. The main advantage of this unit is that it is a reel-to-reel type which (as contrasted with less expensive cassette types) offers a continuous range of taping lengths up to six minutes, and it rewinds immediately upon caller disconnection. It has a call counter, a feature essential to the Museum's monitoring of its public outreach activities. Don expressed intent to consistently include sightings at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve on future tapings. Otherwise the taping content would remain as it is, primarily devoted to all local area bird sightings. He suggested that it be used to publicize upcoming activities, including B.O.S. programs and trips related to ornithology. Tapings could conclude with a statement that the unit was donated by the B.O.S.

A motion was made that the Society provide the Museum with money to buy the Code-A-Phone 111 answering unit; the motion passed. Discussion took place regarding the most appropriate fund of the Society from which the gift should be financed. A motion was made and passed directing the gift to come from the Memorial Fund with any additionally needed money to come from the General Fund.

Program: "The Work of the Statisticians," by the Society's Statisticians, Robert Andrle and Frances Rew. First, Fran outlined the history of records-keeping within the B.O.S. It was an early objective of the Society that sight records be systematically documented and filed so that they would always be available for review. Also, unusual records are subject to verification by the Statisticians. Then, Bob described the process of reviewing the verification reports, calling attention to the correct ways in which field observers deliberately and carefully observe and correctly note their findings. The importance of providing all relevant details and the value of taking notes and making sketches while the bird is actually under study was emphasized. Any photographs, even distant ones, may be helpful. Additionally, the role of the Compiler, Joseph Thill -- to assemble monthly lists of Noteworthy Records and provide them to the Statisticians along with notations regarding the need for verification reports -- was described and the importance of this job was emphasized.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Karen E. Renning

An Attempted Early Nesting by Mourning Doves

Jayne Norcross

During February of this year Mourning Doves built a nest approximately 15' up in an evergreen tree in my yard on Brantwood Road in Snyder, New York. On February 21, 1983 the nest contained 1 egg and on February 22, 1983 the nest contained 2 eggs. Then, on March 13, 1983, a nestling dove (approximately 1 week old?) was found dead under the tree and the nest was empty. The specimen was then turned over to Arthur Clark at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

340 Brantwood Road
Snyder, NY 14226

1982 BIRD BANDING REPORT

Tom Harper
Permit #8282-C

This was my 3rd year of banding at my 10 acre refuge located at Darien Center, New York. The exact location is latitude 42° 5' and longitude 78° 2'.

Educational activities included bird banding demonstrations at Beaver Meadow Audubon Center.

1982 New Bird Summary by Species

Mourning Dove	1	Evening Grosbeak	34
Blue Jay	3	Purple Finch	5
Black-capped Chickadee	42	House Finch	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Common Redpoll	80
Brown Creeper	2	Pine Siskin	19
House Wren	1	Amer. Goldfinch	60
Gray Catbird	3	Dark-eyed Junco	6
Starling	12	Tree Sparrow	123
Blue-winged Warbler	2	Chipping Sparrow	4
Common Yellowthroat	1	Field Sparrow	4
Brown-headed Cowbird	23	White-throated Sparrow	10
Cardinal	3	Song Sparrow	33

475 Total birds banded of 24 Species in 1982.

1440 Total birds banded of 35 Species 1980 through 1982.

Banding Returns

The following birds were recaptured 90 days or more after their previous capture:

Species	Individuals	Known minimum years of age			
		4	3	2	1
Black-capped Chickadee	3		1	2	
Common Yellowthroat	1		1		
Purple Finch	1	1			
American Goldfinch	1			1	
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	1			
Dark-eyed Junco	1			1	
Tree Sparrow	5		4	1	
Song Sparrow	2		1	1	
TOTAL	15				

Recoveries

One recovery report was received from the Bird Banding Office in 1982.

Starling: #772-26516, Banded on 18 March 1980 as an AHY-M (After Hatching Year-Male). It was found dead at the White Game Farm, Alabama, N.Y. This is about 15 miles north of the banding station. It was found on 15 March 1982.

Foreign Retraps

None.

Statistical Breakdown

Banding was conducted on 38 days. Potter cell traps were used on all 38 days, 544 birds were trapped. Nets were used on 13 days, 62 birds were netted. There were 41 hours netting, with an average of 4.5 nets per day.

The Ten Most Commonly Banded Birds (3 Year Total)

American Goldfinch	313
Evening Grosbeak	308
Tree Sparrow	232
Black-capped Chickadee	88
Redpoll	80
Song Sparrow	74
Brown-headed Cowbird	71
Starling	48
Dark-eyed Junco	39
White-throated Sparrow	38

903 Broadway
Darien Center, NY 14040

BIRDS AND POETS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN NEW YORK STATE

II. Eagle Release

would you like to see the Eagle
hatched in an Ohio zoo
no...no breeding pairs
though two we released
four years ago it was
are nesting now
classified information
the nest location
yes...New York State
one of ours was spotted in Peru
Illinois...our yellow band was seen

someone's up here always
on the ridge...to watch
to net the golden carp for food
observations on the video
T.V. cable runs
through the berry thorns
guarding the baby
six weeks old he is
small...must be a male
when he's released he'll bear a radio
transmit a call for help perhaps
a rescue if he falls
trouble in the trees
he must learn to fly alone

here...step on my shoulder
I don't mind the weight
it's worth the climb
worth the wind
I'll take your hat
it's worth the risk
to look the Eagle in the eye
not many can

V. Adaptation

there's pheasants round today
except where they used to be
all stores and lawns
now
they're nesting
in the right o way
picking gravel
off the roads
living
in the unmowed corners
tangled city yards
no hunting
sometimes the cat gets one
soon they'll be
like pigeons
pheasant
like a phoenix

Kastle Brill

(Both poems were originally published in One Night Stands and Other Pieces of Time, by Kastle Brill (copyright 1981). They are reprinted with permission of the author.)

NOTES

Pan American Shorebird Program -- Search for Color-marked Shorebirds

Each spring millions of shorebirds migrate northward from South America to breeding grounds in the U.S. and Canada. Coming from all over South America, their migrations sweep them along the U.S. coasts where, before continuing to arctic breeding grounds, they congregate in massive staging areas in Delaware, New Jersey, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. To protect shorebird populations, basic information is needed on their migration pathways. The broad outline is clear but far more geographic detail is needed to show more exactly where particular populations go: where they stage in migration, where their winter concentrations are, and when they move through critical regions.

The Pan American Shorebird Program is a collaborative research project sponsored in part by the World Wildlife Fund, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and Manomet Bird Observatory. The Program is focusing in 1983 on one key part of this problem: what are the pathways of migration of different populations as they travel northward to the breeding grounds? Cooperators are capturing and marking birds in southern regions and are asking for public help in searching for marked birds at points farther north in migration. The key species chosen for fieldwork in spring 1983 are Sanderling, Red Knot, and Black-bellied Plover. Other species, particularly Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers, will also be marked.

Pan American Shorebird Program cont.

Various kinds of color-markers will be used. Feather dye, a colored leg band, and a colored leg flag will be applied to most birds. Dyes represent the continent of origin, flags the country, and bands the specific site.

IF YOU OBSERVE A COLOR-MARKED SHOREBIRD, PLEASE TRY TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

1. DYE - COLOR AND LOCATION ON BODY
2. LEG FLAG - COLOR AND LEG (LEFT, RIGHT)
3. LEG BAND - COLOR AND LEG (LEFT, RIGHT)

EVEN INCOMPLETE COLOR-MARKING INFORMATION WILL BE VERY USEFUL. Please send the information to: Dr. Marshall A. Howe

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Laurel, Maryland 20708

Marking sites are the following: Mollendo and Paracas, Peru; Valdivia and Antofogasta, Chile; The Outer Banks, North Carolina; Assateague, Virginia; and Delaware Bay, New Jersey.

Participants will be searching for birds along all the major coastlines of the U.S. Volunteers are urgently needed for more extensive participation in certain areas of major shorebird concentration. If you wish to participate, please contact:

Pan American Shorebird Program
c/o Manomet Bird Observatory
P. O. Box 936
Manomet, MA 02345

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

May 11th: Vivian Pitzrick and Elizabeth Brooks, Nest Finding and Identification. Vivian and Elizabeth, from the Allegany Bird Club, will disclose some of the "trade secrets" that have given them such an admirable record in the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project.

May 25th: Bradley A. Lown, Recent Changes in the A.O.U. Check-List. "The Thirty-Fourth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds," will be discussed, particularly as to the changes in taxonomic order and with explanations of the scientific names. And, Tom Harper will give a report on the April Bird Count.

June 8th: Annual picnic meeting at Old Fort Erie, Ontario, 6:30 p.m.
Bring your own food. Paper plates, cups, iced tea and lemonade
will be provided. We will engage in local birding and hear a
review of the May Bird Count.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman,
(885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

May 7-8th: Pymatuning weekend. Joint trip with Buffalo Audubon Society.
Saturday at Presque Isle (Erie); Saturday dinner at Linesville,
PA; Sunday at Pymatuning Reservoir. Call Mary Saville (662-
5215) for reservations.

May 15th: May Bird Count. Compiler: Marc Chelemer (885-0474).

May 22nd: Delaware Park - Forest Lawn. Leader: Marie Wendling (632-
6625). We will meet at Rumsey Road and Windsor Place at
8:00 a.m.

For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field
Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to
be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the
following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 35 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore,
New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The
Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish,
Shirley Wake (typing).

Volume 49, No. 3

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK THACA, N.Y. 14853

JUN 13 1983

VOLUME 49

APRIL 1983

NUMBER 4

THE MONTH

March was a mixed bag weather-wise with the mild temperatures which characterized this winter of 1982-83 lingering almost to the Vernal Equinox. From March 1st through the 19th temperatures were above normal by an average of 12° (F) with a record high temperature of 76° (F) recorded on the 7th. It was the sixth consecutive month of above average temperatures but the idyl ended abruptly with the arrival of a cold front on March 20th with cold northwest winds blowing in freezing rain, sleet and finally snow, measuring 3.9 inches in depth at Buffalo on March 21st. There followed a period of very cold days with snow flurries and squalls and a record low temperature of 5° (F) at Greater Buffalo International Airport on the 25th with below zero readings in the elevated areas of the Southern Tier on that date. The month ended on a decidedly seasonal note. The average temperature for March was 36.7° (F), 3.7° above normal with precipitation measuring 3.20 inches, .23 inches above the norm; snowfall measured 6.9 inches, mostly in the storms on the 21st and 22nd. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

March is the month when most of the ornithological excitement in our area is generated by the migrating and wandering birds seen in the wetlands of the Oak Orchard area in Niagara, Genesee and Orleans counties east of Buffalo. This year, in addition to the usual influx of waterfowl, the attractiveness of the area was enhanced by the presence of a number of Bald Eagles. Many observers reported seeing both adult and immature Bald Eagles at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge and the adjacent N.Y. State Wildlife Management Areas. The resident biologist at the Federal Refuge, John Morse, reported sightings of eagles there on 18 days between March 7th and March 29th. The first sighting on March 7th was of an immature bird with a yellow streamer attached to its left wing; on the following day, both an adult and an unmarked immature eagle were seen. Subsequently, one adult and one or two immature birds were reported almost daily by refuge personnel until March 29th. Other observers, including the writer saw as many as three immature Bald

Eagles in view at one location, mostly perched on the limbs of dead trees at the edge of the Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge where the spacious parking area allowed many visitors to obtain excellent looks at them. None of these birds appeared to have any kind of identifying markers. John Morse estimates that at least five eagles spent the month in the area including one unmarked adult, one or two marked immature and three unmarked immature birds.

Perhaps the most spectacular migration of Canada Geese ever witnessed in a 48 hour period on the Niagara Frontier occurred on March 4th and 5th when flocks of these birds were seen and heard continuously from dawn to dusk in every part of our study area. In conjunction with this influx, John Morse and Odmund Olsen, biologists at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge reported a dramatic increase in the number of Canada Geese migrants arriving at the refuge between March 1st and March 7th. The count of geese present on the 1st totaled 5,600; on the 7th, the count was 56,990 birds! The 3rd count of the month on the 16th was 51,530 geese and the final tally on March 24th showed an increase to 77,400 birds. Morse explained that these figures represent actual counts but for the refuge's official records they are multiplied by 1.1 and rounded off to the nearest thousand. This formula is employed to give a conservative figure for the total number of geese visiting the refuge as many rest in areas that are inaccessible to the observers. Coinciding with the goose flight was a general movement of Whistling Swans and other waterfowl into the area on March 4th and 5th. Bob Sundell of Jamestown reported 2,500 Whistling Swans on Chautauqua Lake on March 4th, all of which took flight while under observation and proceeded in a westerly direction. The number of swans reported in March was below average for this area and it appears that the main migration of these birds occurred to the west of us.

Meanwhile, back at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, Morgan Jones reported eight Snow Geese at the Cayuga Pool on March 6th. Three of these geese were adult blue phase birds while the remaining five were described as 'mottled' individuals which Jones speculates were intermediate between the blue and white phases. Shortly thereafter, he saw two more Snow Geese from the overlook of the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area on N.Y. Route #77 in Niagara County; both of these were adult birds, one of each color phase. On March 13th, Bob Andrie, Dick Byron and Bobby Tomasi found an immature White-fronted Goose swimming in a group of Canada Geese in a flooded dike impoundment off of Ditch Road in the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Niagara County. This bird was uniformly dark brown except for its white undertail coverts and diagnostic yellow bill identifying it as of the Greenland race of this species, Anser albifrons flavirostris. A second White-fronted Goose was seen on March 24th by John Morse and Bruce Chilton. This bird, at the School House Marsh on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge, was an adult with the characteristic white patch at the base of a yellow-orange bill and apparently was also of the Greenland race. Morse reports that this bird was in the company of three 'weird' geese of similar size, two of which had white heads suggesting they were the issue of a Snow Goose x White-fronted Goose pairing as all three birds had the other field marks of the White-front. On March 16th, Odmund Olsen picked out an adult Barnacle Goose among a large flock of Canada Geese at the Cayuga Pool on the Federal Refuge. This bird was also seen by Bob Andrie and Bob and Lucille Leonard. It was noticeably smaller than the Canada Geese with the diagnostic bluish-grey back and conspicuous white forehead clearly seen.

Other interesting records for March include Walter Klabunde's summary of the raptor migration over the Beamer Point Conservation Area at Grimsby, Ontario where approximately 1,200 birds of eleven species, including two Golden Eagles and four Bald Eagles, were tallied during the month. Of fifteen Goshawks identified at that lookout, six were seen on March 30th. On March 15th, John Morse observed an adult male Yellow-headed Blackbird in a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds perching in a Cottonwood tree at the edge of Cinnamon Marsh in the Tonawanda Wildlife Management Area in Niagara County. The bird was larger than its Red-winged companions with the diagnostic yellow breast, neck and head and white wing bars clearly seen. On March 5th, Joanne Goetz saw her second immature Harris' Sparrow of the winter when the bird was feeding with a flock of House Sparrows in her yard on Pine Drive in the Village of Fredonia. This bird was larger and lighter in color than the House Sparrows and closely resembled the Harris Sparrow seen at this location in December, 1982 with slightly more black coloration in the throat area.

As a final comment on "the winter of no finches," Elizabeth Brooks writes that the number of new birds banded by her in Allegany County in February and March represents the lowest total for those months since she began banding in 1975.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

MARCH NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Pied-billed Grebe	Mar.	24	F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	4		1 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Whistling Swan	"	4	F	100 over Belmont	Burton
	"	4	F	74 over Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	4	F	6 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	10		30 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
	"	12		13 Crescent Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
	"	14		22 over Pinehurst	Hess, Schaffner
	"	15		21 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24		4 Buffalo Harbor	O'Dell
Canada Goose	"	1-24	5600-77,400	Iroquois NWR	Olsen et al
	"	4		5,000 over Depew	Barbers
	"	4		1,500 over Darien Center	Harper
	"	4-5		600 over Belmont	Burton

Canada Goose	Mar.	5	770 over Amity Lake	Pitzricks
(cont.)	"	5	120 over Elma	Forsberg
	"	5	75 over East Aurora	Barbers
	"	5	1000 over Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	5	110 Town of Arkwright	Moshers
			(maximum counts for the month)	
*Barnacle Goose	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
*Snow Goose	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Harper
			(blue morph)	
	"	6	8 Iroquois NWR	Jones
			(blue morphs)	
	"	6	2 Tonawanda WMA	Jones
			(one white, one blue morph)	
	"	8	2 Iroquois NWR	Hess et al
			(white morphs)	
	"	30	3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
			(one white, two blue morphs)	
*White-fronted Goose	"	13	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
	"	24	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Chilton
			(both of the Greenland race, <u>A.a.flavirostris</u>)	
Gadwall	"	1-31	6 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
	"	2	13 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	13	2 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
	"	18	6 Grand Island	Hess
	"	19	2 Tonawanda WMA	Barbers
Green-w. Teal	"	5	8 Dunkirk	Moshers
	"	7	3 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Blue-w. Teal	"	17 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	20	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle, Thill
	"	23, 31	1, 5 Dunkirk	Mosher
American Wigeon	"	5 F	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	13	2 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
*Northern Shoveler	"	13 F	2 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
	"	19	2 Tonawanda WMA	Barbers
	"	30	4 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna, Potter
*Wood Duck	"	2 F	2 Tonawanda WMA	Morse
	"	13	2 Oak Orchard WMA	Andrle et al
Redhead	"	16	4 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Ring-necked Duck	"	5	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	7	8 Dunkirk	Mosher, Benton
	"	8	15 Iroquois NWR	Hess
*Ruddy Duck	"	27 F	7 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
*Turkey Vulture	"	12 F	1 North Boston	O'Dell
	"	15	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	19	5 Tonawanda WMA	Barbers
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	13	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
	"	27	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	31	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin

Cooper's Hawk	Mar.	7	1 West Seneca	Hess
"	"	14	1 over Pinehurst	Hess
"	"	23	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	23	1 Darien Center	Harper
"	"	24	1 Orchard Park	Saville
Red-tailed Hawk	"	14	7 over Pinehurst	Hess
Red-should. Hawk	"	13	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
"	"	14	2 over Pinehurst	Hess
"	"	16, 24	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	16	1 Town of Westfield	Mosher
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Harper
"	"	19	2 Hermitage	Barbers
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
"	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
"	"	29	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Bald Eagle	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
			(immature bird; yellow marker on left wing)	
"	"	8	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
			(adult)	
"	"	13-27	1-3 Iroquois NWR	Harper
			(2 adult, 5 immature birds sighted during this period)	
"	"	13-27	3, 2, 3 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
			(1 adult, 3 immature birds)	
"	"	15	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
			(1 adult, 1 immature bird)	
"	"	19	3 Iroquois NWR	Barbers
			(immature birds)	
"	"	19	3 Iroquois NWR	Hess
			(immature birds)	
"	"	27	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
			(adult)	
*American Woodcock	"	12 F	1 Town of Concord	O'Dell
"	"	14	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	15, 16	2, 2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Common Snipe	"	23 F	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
Glaucous Gull	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
Lesser Black-b. Gull	"	10	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
Snowy Owl	"	5-21	1 Town of Wheatfield	Burch
Short-eared Owl	"	1-31	5 Town of Java	Junkin
"	"	30, 31	5, 5 Town of Sheldon	Rosches
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	17	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
"	"	20	2 Iroquois NWR	Andrle, Thill
"	"	27	2 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
"	"	30	1 Belmont	Burtens
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Northern Flicker	"	1, 4	1, 1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	7	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	9	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen

*Tree Swallow	Mar.	17 F	12-15 Tonawanda WMA	Endres
"	"	22,23	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	23	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	4 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick, Burton
"	"	1-31	2 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	4-31	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
Brown Thrasher	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
*Eastern Bluebird	"	6 F	3 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
"	"	13	1 Town of Hanover	Goetz
"	"	13	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	16	2 Town of Portland	Moshers
"	"	16,28	1,2 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	17-31	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Northern Shrike	"	13	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Rusty Blackbird	"	5	12 Fredonia	Moshers
(maximum count for the month)				
Eastern Meadowlark	"	4 F,10	1,6 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	7	1 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
*Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	15	1 Tonawanda WMA	Morse
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-31	2-15 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	2-5 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	1-31	20-30 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	11-29	2-10 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	17	3 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
"	"	25	1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	27	3 Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
House Finch	"	1-31	1-4 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	1-11 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	10-20 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	6	2 Wellsville	Pitzrick
"	"	11-31	1-2 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	20,27	1,6 Beaver Meadow EEC	Junkin
Rufous-s. Towhee	"	1-31	1 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	13 F	1 Chestnut Ridge Park	O'Dell
"	"	14	1 Pinehurst	Hess, Schaffner
*Harris' Sparrow	"	5	1 Fredonia (f)	Goetz
Field Sparrow	"	4	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
"	"	15	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	21	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
*Fox Sparrow	"	20 F-28	2 Alfred (f)	Klingensmith
"	"	23-25	1 Darien Center (f)	Harper
"	"	23,24	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
"	"	23,24	1,1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
White-cr. Sparrow	"	1-31	1 Belmont	Burtons
White-thr. Sparrow	"	1-31	4 Orchard Park	Saville
"	"	1-31	3 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	5-19	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	7	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	16	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	99
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month.	<u>15</u>
Total for year	114

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of March 9,,1983

The meeting was opened by President Wavel Barber and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Wavel reported that the official meeting closing time is 10:30 p.m. Therefore it was decided it won't be necessary to consider adopting an earlier meeting time.

Bob Andrie reported that there are still many Atlas blocks in need of coverage. Also, the Museum is conducting various wildlife censuses at Tifft Farm Nature Preserve and assistance is welcome on the avian portion of these studies.

Several members presented updates on the Allegany Park Recreation Forest Resource Management Plan, which would introduce logging to the Park. An upcoming scoping meeting in Jamestown was mentioned, as was a proposal by Erie County Legislator David Manz to have the County Legislature adopt a position opposing the plan and advocating having a full range of public hearings and meetings in Buffalo. A brief discussion was held about Society policy regarding the adoption of positions by the B.O.S. on relevant conservation related issues and presenting these views at hearings, through letters to governmental bodies, etc. It was generally agreed that it is appropriate for the Society to adopt and express such positions if a formal motion is passed by the members present at a regular meeting. Accordingly, Bob Klips made a motion, which was passed, to put the Society on record as favoring the Manz Resolution and he volunteered to make a statement to the Erie County Legislature Committee on Conservation and the Environment on March 10.

Program: Harriette and Walter Klabunde led a discussion on bird censuses and survey techniques. Harriette outlined the following bird counts in which the B.O.S. regularly participates: the National Audubon Society's Christmas Count (count circle centering on Grand Island), and the B.O.S. April, May and October counts. She described the checklist and maps which detail the 28 B.O.S. Sectional Divisions. The importance of the count data in refining the Date Guide was emphasized. Then, Walt described the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Cooperative Breeding Bird Surveys, or "June Runs," for which there are 18 survey routes in B.O.S. territory, but presently only 14 cooperators -- participants in this survey are urgently needed! Walt outlined the June Run procedures, wherein, at 52 stops along a predetermined route, a surveyor records the species seen and heard singing over a 3 minute period. A discussion followed in which the importance and personal educational value of being a count compiler was mentioned.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

March 6th Field Trip in Pursuit of Owls, Revisited

On a lovely April Sunday morning on March 6, 1983, 33 birders met at Vermont and Busti for a day of owling with distinguished "owl tracker" Blayne Farnam. Blayne had received word that Bill Burch had observed a Snowy Owl at Niagara Falls Airport late Saturday afternoon. Willie D'Anna added that he knew of a Great Horned Owl on a nest in the same vicinity and an Eastern Screech-Owl in a tree nearby.

Our first stop was at the Niagara Falls Airport where, prior to our arrival, a survey had not turned up the snowy. The entourage moved a couple of miles away from the airport, stopped on the side of the road, got out, put up scopes and studied the Great Horned Owl on a nest just inside the woods.

Another very short drive then again stop, out, scopes, and examine the face and head of an Eastern ~~Screech~~-Owl framed beautifully in a hole in a big old tree in a neighborhood back yard.

Back to the airport to make it 3 for 3. The female Snowy sat on the crossarm of a utility pole facing us, "yawning," preening and generally unperturbed by the two American Kestrels sitting in the same scope field. The viewers were more perturbed though by being divided between east and west activities. To the west the Snowy, to the east Red-tailed Hawks spaced in trees like street lights and a Rough-legged Hawk performing his Robbins, Braun, et al "hovering pose" for all to see.

The smashing finale to the first act of this Sunday morning spectacular was supposed to be a good view of St. Catherines' Common Barn Owl in residence. But the resident wasn't home. Blayne had permission to search the old feed buildings so we might see this owl in its daytime quarters. Blayne peered into the various openings of the building and Drew Campbell climbed among the dusty rafters but the owl was not found. A purusal of the abutments below the big bridge also resulted in no Common Barn Owl.

"Spread out, watch for roosting saw-whets, and see if we can rouse some long-ears or short-ears." With those instructions, we walked through selected woodlots in the Port Colborne area. In one conifer plantation with Golden-crowned Kinglets, Chickadees and Downy Woodpeckers, Blayne visited two nesting boxes. The first was empty, the second was a daytime roost of a Northern ~~Screech~~-Owl. Blayne plucked it from the box and passed it to Drew Campbell who found how fierce the talons of this little Goliath can be. The observers had a chance to get a good close look at this owl and to examine the feathers and the silent down lining of the wings. It was returned to its box, and we went on to more woodlots. No long-ears nor short-ears were found.

The waning of the day, the prospect of slogging the bog or the few sprinkles felt as we emerged from the last woodlot narrowed our group to 13 hardy souls as we attacked Wainfleet Marsh. "Spread out, keep the person on each side of you in sight, clap your hands as you go and watch for Short-eared Owls." Through the peat bog we went, two Northern Harriers flew by but no Short-eared Owls.

March 6th Field Trip in Pursuit of Owls, Revisited cont.

Back to the cars, satisfied with three "good" owls sighted, and interesting observations of other raptors. Even the unsuccessful forays had been filled with excitement and anticipation.

The timing was right. As we headed for home, the rains came!

Wavel H. Barber

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of March 23, 1983

The meeting was opened by President Wavel Barber and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

It was mentioned that Ontario is conducting a breeding bird atlas project. B.O.S. members are encouraged to participate, and can do so by sending in notes of observations casually made while birding in the province or by taking on a territory. Procedurally, this atlas effort is very similar to the New York State project. Bob Andrie can get birders in touch with Ontario's atlas coordinators.

Drew Campbell briefly reported on a variety of bird song recordings and books that are available and where they may be obtained. The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's "Crow's Nest Bookshop" and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists were both recommended, and can supply by mail-order.

Bird sightings were reported.

Program: Wavel Barber spoke on bird sounds, telling us why, when and where birds produce sounds and also how we can recognize who is doing the singing, calling, drumming, wing-whistling or whatever. Each of these aspects of bird sounds was explained by references from both ornithological literature and Wavel's own experiences. Recordings were played to serve as examples of song types and varieties and the various techniques for describing, representing and remembering bird songs were presented. A list of transliterations of many bird calls (english phrases or syllables that sound much like the calls) was provided to those present at this much enjoyed and richly informative program. Kong-Ka-Ree!

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

BIRDS AND POETS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN NEW YORK STATE

I. How to breed an Osprey

See...there in the flooded forest
she's been sitting
32 days now
about to give up hope
that's the way it sometimes is
o he's around
comes and goes
as he pleases
I'd like to see her go
bring back fish for
tiny gaping ospreys
those trees are almost gone
theirs is cracked
next year we'll have to build
platforms in the marsh

III. Wetland Fill

Man's go a right
to build on
his own property
what the hell do
I pay taxes for
yea, I like to fish
make me a nice little
dock, a camper turnaround
open up this here
mosquito breeder cover up
the cattail over there
you know
neat up the edges
why there's 5/6 acres
over to sam pitcher's place
he don't mind
the weeds and bugs
lots of fish
let the fish breed there

Kastle Brill
(c) 1980

NOTES

An Early Nesting of the American Kestrel

To update the current bird breeding file on the American Kestrel (Falco sparverius sparverius) I would like to report an active nest.

The eggs are in a nest box that I nailed onto an ash tree on February 17, 1983. I first observed a pair at the site on March 12. Checking the box for the first time on Tuesday, March 29, 1983, I discovered the nest to contain three warm eggs.

As Kestrels normally lay one egg a day, the onset of egg laying may actually have begun on March 26, or very possibly sooner.

This appears to be the earliest recorded date for Western New York so far. A. C. Bent's date for New York was April 12 and Mitchell and Beardslee's date for the Niagara Frontier Region was April 9.

Paul T. Schnell, 6763 Minnick Road, Lockport, NY 14094

Conservation Items of Interest to Birders

State Level:

Change of Status of Mourning Dove

Maurice Hinchley, Assembly Environment and Conservation Committee, has introduced Bill A2766 which would allow hunting of the Mourning Dove in New York State. Reasons not to hunt the Mourning Dove include the following: population is stable in our area; Mourning Dove eats noxious weeds, especially ragweed; interesting target on power lines can destroy property; they perch on power lines like Kestrels do and they look alike to some people; hunting season (in September) would interfere with nesting season.

If you feel the Mourning Dove should continue on the protected list, write Mr. Hinchley AND your own State Assemblyman, Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York 12248.

National Level:

Matagorda Island - Habitat for Whooping Cranes and Eight Other Endangered and Threatened Species

Two different environmental groups don't quite agree on how to go about protecting the Matagorda Island part of Arkansas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. The bill in question in the Senate is S.696, the Bentsen Bill and in the House H.R.1935. The National Audubon Society publication, Leader, says the Andrus-Reed letter says the agreement provides management which would be in accord with

Conservation Items of Interest to Birders cont.

National Level: cont.

Matagorda Island - cont.

National Wildlife Refuge regulations and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service keeps authority to approve or disapprove all management plans and to issue all permits pertaining to land use and access to the island.

Readers are urged to write Senator D.P. Moynihan, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 AND their representative, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, telling them your views on the Texas part of this wonderful refuge.

Mono Lake - Nesting Grounds for Western Gulls

Mono Lake, 350 miles northeast of Los Angeles, and a source of water for that city, is now being considered as a national monument to protect its rare geologic and historic landscape. The level of the lake had dropped 43 feet by 1979 and its surface had shrunk from 85 to 60 square miles, making its increasing salinity a disastrous effect on bird populations, especially gulls that nest there. Letters to your representative urging him to support Mono Lake National Monument, H.R.1341, should help to protect this unique area.

Olga M. Rosche, 13781 Fish Hill Rd., S. Wales, NY 14139

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

June 8th: Annual picnic meeting at Old Fort Erie, Ontario, 6:30 p.m.
Bring your own food. Paper plates, cups, iced tea and lemonade
will be provided. We will engage in local birding and hear a
review of the May Bird Count.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman,
(885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

FIELD TRIPS

June 12th: Blockbusting Adventure in and around Springville. Participants are greatly desired to join in on a day's tallying of as many species as possible, in as many blocks as possible, for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas. This is a hilly, rural scenic area of fairly high elevation which may contain some northerly-ranging species which are not widely distributed in our region. For details please call Dr. Andrle at 896-5200.

For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairwoman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

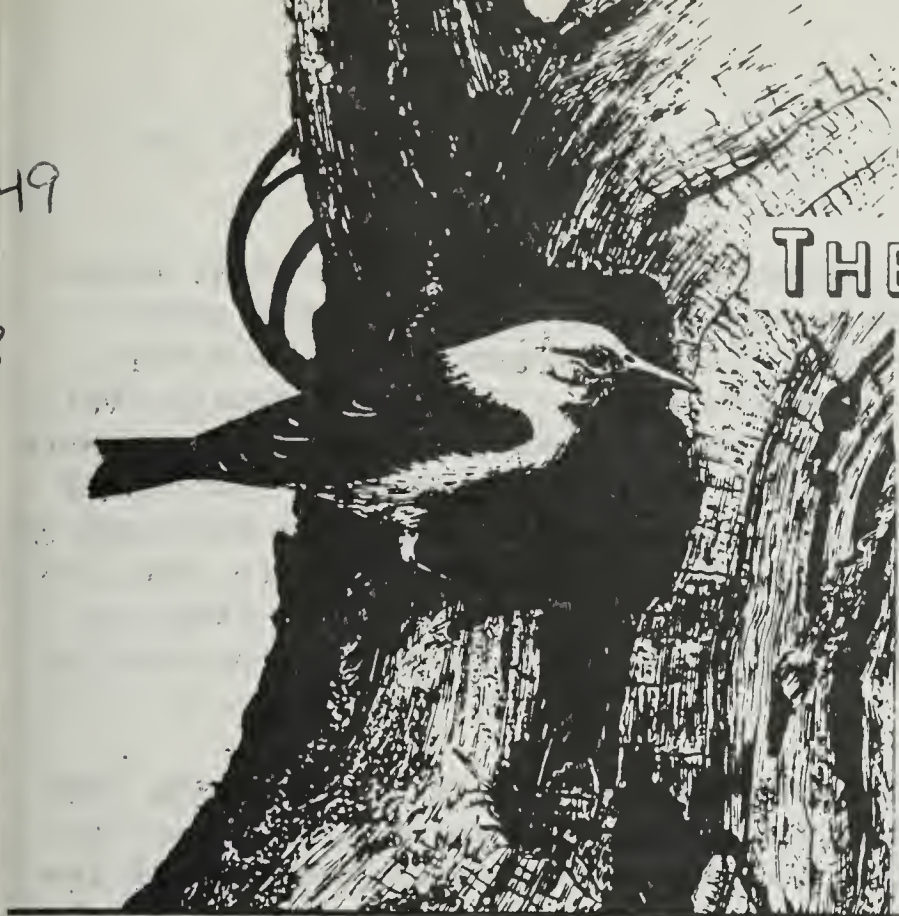
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish, Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

49

8



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 49

MAY 1983

JUL 28 1983

NUMBER 5

THE MONTH

April was a cloudy, cold and wet month with fewer hours of sunshine recorded than in the past 22 years. Wintry weather returned with the advent of a cold front on April 15th which brought unseasonably chilly temperatures and snow flurries to the area for a five day period; up to four inches of snow fell on the Southern Tier counties on the 18th with an additional five inches reported from Allegany County on the following day. During this period, Vivian Pitzrick reported early nesting Killdeers and Bluebirds lost their broods and there were many reports of birds flocking to feeders and open roadsides. The first significant warm spell of the month commenced on the 26th and lingered to month's end, precipitating a big movement of hawks and other raptors through the area on April 27th and 28th, of which more below. The average temperature for the month was 43.6° (F), 1.8° below normal. Precipitation at Buffalo measured 2.55 inches, .51 inches below the norm. Snowfall measured 2.3 inches, 1.2 inches falling in flurries and squalls on the 20th. Only 35% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the less than optimum weather conditions, the April migration of birds in this area was a good and in many ways memorable experience. Pinehurst is a small residential community on the Old Lake Shore Road in the Town of Hamburg which has become a favorite gathering place for bird watchers in April. They assemble across from the Bavarian Chalet Restaurant on the curve of the road overlooking Lake Erie where there is a commanding panoramic view of water and sky; waterfowl, raptors and passerine migrants fly by in great numbers. On April 16th at 8:30 a.m., Robert Andrie arrived at this lookout in anticipation of a big movement of hawks when his attention was attracted to a very large long-winged seabird flying in a south-westerly direction a few meters over the lake. The slow "flap and glide" pattern of the flight and the much larger size of the bird compared to the Herring and Ring-billed Gulls flying nearby identified it as a pelagic species

with which he was familiar, an immature Northern Gannet. The bird's long, narrow wings, long symmetrically tapered bill and brownish mantle were clearly seen. Andrie had seen this species many times on the Atlantic Coast but it is a rare vagrant on Lake Erie and Lake Ontario in our study area. (See Prothonotary, Vol. 48:1, pg. 1, 1982). Fortune continued to smile on him this morning as three hours later an immature Bald Eagle flew by the lookout, also flying low over the water and hotly pursued by gulls. In the interim, many hawks, including the first migrant Broad-wings of the season were seen. Earlier at Pinehurst on April 13th, Paul Hess witnessed a good flight of hawks between 10:00 a.m. and noon including five Goshawks. On April 21st, Hess saw an adult Merlin, both in flight and perched at Times Beach on the Buffalo waterfront.

On April 15th, Mike Zebehazy observed an adult Golden Eagle flying some fifty feet above the crest of a hill in West Falls in southern Erie County. The bird was being harassed by a Red-tailed Hawk which was dwarfed by the size of its victim. Oddly enough, one week before witnessing this event, Zebehazy had watched a Golden Eagle being mobbed by two Red-tailed Hawks in Tuscon, Arizona. On the 17th, Bill and Alice McKale were stopped on U.S. Route #219 near the Armor-Duell Road in the Town of Orchard Park watching a group of migrating hawks when their attention was attracted to a large brown raptor circling and soaring some 2,000 feet above them. It was a noticeably larger bird than the Turkey Vulture conveniently flying nearby and used for comparison and it flew effortlessly on its large wings which were heavily blackish on their leading edges - an adult Golden Eagle! Earlier in the month on April 5th, Odmund Olsen, a biologist at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge saw a large brown raptor with a lighter patch on the back of the head and a smaller beak than the immature Bald Eagles so much in evidence at that refuge of late. Olsen considers it a putative adult Golden Eagle.

Southwest winds brought a huge mass of warm air into this region on April 26th. The long anticipated big flight of Broad-winged Hawks began almost simultaneously. On April 27th, Vivian Pitzrick and Clarence and Margaret Klingensmith visited Braddock's Bay Park northwest of Rochester on Lake Ontario in Monroe County which is the scene of some of the most spectacular hawk migrations in spring in Western New York. They witnessed a tremendous flight of over 9,000 birds, mostly Broad-wings and Sharp-shins but including both a Bald Eagle and a Golden Eagle. On the following day, Pamela McNeil of Pleasant Avenue in the Village of Hamburg telephoned Arthur Clark at the Museum of Science in Buffalo to inform him that an unusually large hawk migration was in progress over that community. Mrs. McNeil subsequently reported 4,112 Broad-winged Hawks, six Ospreys and three immature Bald Eagles among the birds that she counted between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. on this warm and humid day; brisk easterly winds ushering in a weather front at 5:00 p.m. brought thunder, lightning and a brief but heavy rainstorm ending the flight. In the meantime, Clark and Bob Andrie went to the roof of the Museum to see if they could spot any stragglers from this flight over the city, a good possibility as the winds were fresh and almost due easterly. To their amazement, the sky was filled with hawks, a most unusual occurrence this far east of the usual spring migration route along the south shore of Lake Erie and a few miles inland. Andrie counted 837 Broad-winged Hawks and 10 Ospreys in the two hours of watching from this vantage point. The writer, who was in his downtown Buffalo office when he was alerted as to what was occurring, counted 23 Sharp-shinned Hawks moving in a northwesterly direction

among the tall buildings between 4:30 and 5:00. In the City of North Tonawanda in western Niagara County, Mary Clemesha writes of her experience on April 28th. From 3:30 until approximately 5:00 p.m., she and Wilma Laux watched small groups of five to ten hawks drift over her home on South Meadow Road in that city, moving swiftly on strong easterly winds. They saw one kettle of 25 birds and a second of 60 to 75 birds some distance away. The height at which the hawks were passing varied from "just above treetop" to altitudes where only binoculars could identify them. The thunderstorm at 5:00 ended the flight which Miss Clemesha and other bird-watching residents of the Tonawandas agreed was unprecedented. She estimates a minimum of 275 to 300 hawks, almost all Broad-wings were seen during the hour and one-half of her observations.

One final note about the April raptor flight. During the late afternoon of April 17th, the writer was summoned by his son who had run into the family residence on Allegany Avenue in Kenmore to announce that there was a "swarm" of hawks over our house! I was completely puzzled by this report as it was a cold day with a brisk wind out of the west and in any case, there were no previous reports to my knowledge of any hawk migration worthy of note over the Town of Tonawanda and northern Erie County. Nonetheless, my son's observation was remarkably accurate. Directly overhead was a kettle of no less than 60 Turkey Vultures circling around for perhaps three minutes before sailing off in formation almost due north towards Canada.

Other interesting records for the month include a Double-crested Cormorant seen on Amity Lake in Belmont, N.Y. by Vivian Pitzrick on April 4th. An adult male European Wigeon, resplendent in breeding plumage, first reported on March 28th, was seen by many observers both at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve and nearby Times Beach in Buffalo during April. The bird was unmistakable with its reddish-brown head, cream-colored crown and gray mantle contrasting sharply with the plumage of the American Wigeons with whom it associated. William Vaughan and his bird study group counted 59 Caspian Terns migrating in a northwesterly direction along the Lake Erie shore at Barcelona in Chautauqua County on April 29th. This is a record number for this species in our study area. Bruce Duncan reported a very early Cliff Swallow at Rock Point Provincial Park on April 9th, hawking insects over the water in the company of 50 or more Tree Swallows and three Barn Swallows. Elizabeth Brooks advises that in the course of 250 net hours (22 days) bird banding in Allegany County in April, she banded nine Cedar Waxwings, one of which had a bright orange tail band. This is a morphological character of the Asiatic species of waxwing, Bombycilia japonica which ranges across Japan, Manchuria and the Sakhalin Islands. (See note elsewhere in this issue.)

Finally, Joanne Goetz reports two more observations of the Harris' Sparrow in April. The bird visited the feeder in her yard on Pine Drive in Fredonia on the 5th and the 23rd. She writes that the sparrow's throat has become quite black in color as has the area around his beak. The sides of its head now appear more gray and the auricular area more pronounced as it comes into adult breeding plumage.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

APRIL NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	April	13	6 over Pinehurst	Hess
	"	17	2 East Otto	McKales
	"	17	1 Town of Hamburg	Thill
	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	21	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	22	1 Cassadaga Lake	Moshers
	"	24, 29	1, 2 Town of Hamburg	Andrle et al
	"	29	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	30	6 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
Horned Grebe	"	5, 11, 16, 22	6, 2, 1, 8 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12	2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	30	2 Town of Hamburg	Andrle et al
Pied-billed Grebe	"	18-30	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	21, 27	2, 6 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	22	6 Cassadaga Lake	Moshers
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	1	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	4	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	12	3 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
*Northern Gannet	"	16	1 Town of Hamburg	Andrle
*Green Heron	"	22 F	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
Great Egret	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
*Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	15	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	19	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	28	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Amer. Bittern	"	27 F	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	30	1 Iroquois NWR	Schreiner
Whistling Swan	"	5	3 Mayville	Moshers
	"	12-21	1 Belmont	Burtens et al
Canada Goose	"	1, 22	28660, 33450 Iroquois NWR	Morse et al
			(maximum counts for month)	
Snow Goose	"	20	2 Mohawk Bay, Ont.	Duncan
			(1 blue, 1 white morph)	
Gadwall	"	14-27	3-5 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	16	5 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	5 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
*European Wigeon	"	17	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron
Northern Shoveler	"	14	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess

Ring-necked Duck	April	5	85 Mayville	Moshers
"	"	5	57 Iroquois NWR	Hess
White-w. Scoter	"	12	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	26	2 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Schaffner
Ruddy Duck	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Mosher, Benton
"	"	21,27	5,6 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Hooded Merganser	"	5	8 Mayville	Moshers
"	"	7	30 Iroquois NWR	Thills
Turkey Vulture	"	1,9	5,12 over East Aurora	Andrle et al
"	"	9,16	4,27 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	13	97 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	17	60 over Kenmore	Thills
"	"	26,27,28	11,6,13 over Hamburg	McNeil
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	13,26	52,57 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	28,29	38,16 over Hamburg	McNeil
"	"	28	23 over Buffalo	Thill
Cooper's Hawk	"	8,21	1,1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	10	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Mahaney
"	"	13,26	8,1 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	26	1 Town of Sheridan	Mosher, Schaffner
*Goshawk	"	2	1 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
Red-tailed Hawk	"	13	177 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	16	63 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	26,27,28	7,32,22 over Hamburg	McNeil
Red-should. Hawk	"	13	4 over Pinehurst	Hess
"	"	27	16 over Hamburg	McNeil
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	13 F	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosche
"	"	16,27	10,48 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
"	"	26	117 over Pinehurst	Hess
"	"	26,27,28	16,100,4112 over Hamburg	McNeil
"	"	28	837 over Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
"	"	28	150 over Buffalo	Hess
"	"	29	34 over Hamburg	McNeil
			(maximum counts for migration)	
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	5	1 Town of Yates	Hess
"	"	13	4 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	20	2 Rainham Twp., Ont.	Duncan
"	"	24	2 Town of Yates	Harper
"	"	27	1 over Hamburg	McNeil
Bald Eagle	"	16	1 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
			(immature bird)	
"	"	19	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
			(immature bird)	
"	"	27,28	1,3 over Hamburg	McNeil
			(all immature birds)	
*Golden Eagle	"	17	1 over Orchard Park	McKales
Northern Harrier	"	5	5 Town of Yates	Hess
"	"	13	2 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	16	7 over Pinehurst	Andrle et al
Osprey	"	11-30	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	13	3 over Pinehurst	Hess et al

Osprey	April	15,17	1,1 Iroquois NWR	Endres
(cont.)	"	16	1 Iroquois NWR	Mosher, Miga
	"	17	1 Lime Lake	Harper
	"	17	4 Jerusalem Corners	Andrle
	"	17	1 over Pinehurst	Thill
	"	17	2 Allegheny Reservoir	Harper
	"	17,20,21,25	1,1,1,2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	20	1 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	22	2 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	22	1 Iroquois NWR	Prusa
	"	26,27,28	1,1,6 over Hamburg	McNeil
	"	27	2 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Schreiner
	"	28	2 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	28	10 over Buffalo	Andrle, Clark
American Kestrel	"	13	9 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
	"	19	5 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	27,28	27,6 over Hamburg	McNeil
*Virginia Rail	"	16 F	6 Iroquois NWR	Keller
			(birds heard responding to taped calls)	
	"	22	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
*Sora	"	16 F	2 Iroquois NWR	Keller
			(birds heard responding to taped calls)	
	"	22	1 East Aurora	Zebehazy
Common Gallinule	"	27	3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
Common Snipe	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Upland Sandpiper	"	30 F	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Spotted Sandpiper	"	28 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	30	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Solitary Sandpiper	"	29 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	30	2 Dunkirk	Mosher
*Greater Yellowlegs	"	4 F	2 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	24	10 Iroquois NWR	Harper
	"	30	3 Dunkirk	Mosher
*Lesser Yellowlegs	"	4 F	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	30	13 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	30	6 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Pectoral Sandpiper	"	30 F	3 Dunkirk	Mosher
Bonaparte's Gull	"	2	120 Dunkirk Harbor	Goetz
Glaucous Gull	"	21	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Iceland Gull	"	11	1 LaSalle Park, Bflo.	Hess
	"	21	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
*Common Tern	"	14 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*Caspian Tern	"	28 F	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
	"	30	9 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	30	5 Town of Hamburg	Andrle et al
Short-eared Owl	"	8	1 Town of Sheldon	Harper
	"	16	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosche
*Chimney Swift	"	28 F	6 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	28 F-30	3-5 Spring Brook	Danner

Volume 49, No. 5 "April Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Flicker	April	5-31	1-2 Belmont	Burtions
"	"	16	12 Point Gratiot	Goetz, Flory
"	"	16	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	17,23	1,3 Town of Wales	Rosche
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	5	1 Belmont	Burtions
"	"	13	1 Town of Angelica	Burtions, Jordan
"	"	15	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	21	2 Town of Wheatfield	Hess et al
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	12,19	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	16	1 Point Gratiot	Goetz, Flory
*Gr. Crested Flycatcher	"	30 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Eastern Phoebe	"	6-30	1-9 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	6 F	1 Belmont	Burtions
"	"	8	1 North Boston	O'Dell
*Bank Swallow	"	21 F	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
"	"	25	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Rough-w. Swallow	"	19 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	28	6 Fredonia	Mosher
Barn Swallow	"	13 F	7 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	14	3 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
*Cliff Swallow	"	9 F	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Purple Martin	"	13 F	10 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	14	1 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	2 Spring Brook (f)	Danner
"	"	2-26	1-2 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	12,25,26	2,1,2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	17	1 Town of Hamburg	Andrle, Byron
Winter Wren	"	15	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
"	"	25	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
"	"	26	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Schaffner
Mockingbird	"	13,26	1,1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	30	1 Wellsville	Pitzricks
Brown Thrasher	"	1-30	1 Belmont	Burtions
"	"	28,29	2,1 Town of Amity	Pitzricks
"	"	29	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Hermit Thrush	"	17,19	1,7 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	18,20	1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-28	1-2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	1-30	16 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	(eight pairs at nesting sites)		
"	"	3	4 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	7	1 Town of Sheridan	Mosher
"	"	7-22	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	12,19	2,2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
"	"	16	1 Ashford Hollow	McKales
"	"	20	3 Iroquois NWR	Olsen
"	"	20	2 Town of Amity	Burtions, Jordan
"	"	21,27	3,3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	26	2 Forestville	Mosher, Schaffner
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	13	2 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	14	1 Eggertsville	McKales
"	"	16	20 Point Gratiot	Goetz, Flory

*Ruby-cr. Kinglet	April	1 F-30	2-4 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	14	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	16-22	1-4 Alfred	Brooks
Water Pipit	"	13,20	50,125 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	19	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	25	100 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
Northern Shrike	"	7 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Loggerhead Shrike	"	26 F	1 Town of Hamburg	Hess, Connors
*Orange-cr. Warbler	"	30 F	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher
*Yellow Warbler	"	30 F	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	2	1 Fredonia	Mosher
"	"	16 F	2 Point Gratiot	Goetz; Flory
"	"	21	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
"	"	21	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Pine Warbler	"	27 F	1 Town of Hamburg	Andrle et al
*Nor. Waterthrush	"	29 F	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle, Byron
*La. Waterthrush	"	17 F	3 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
*Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	29 F	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	1,2	2,4 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	1-30	2-17 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-30	10-30 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	3-30	1-50 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	13	5 over Pinehurst	Hess et al
"	"	16	3 East Otto	McKales
"	"	26	3 Darien (f)	Harper
House Finch	"	1-24	11-15 Fredonia (f)	Flory
"	"	1-30	1-5 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	1-30	1-15 Eggertsville (f)	Hulls
"	"	1-30	10-20 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	2-30	20 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	7-30	1-2 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	20	4 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	26,27	1,1 Iroquois NWR (f)	Olsen
*Red Crossbill	"	17	2 Ashford Hollow	McKales
Savannah Sparrow	"	12 F	2 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	13,20	1,7 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Vesper Sparrow	"	10	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher, Mahoney
"	"	17	2 Town of Ashford	McKales
Dark-eyed Junco	"	20	200 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
Chipping Sparrow	"	14	1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	16	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Tree Sparrow	"	1-30 L	1-5 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1-30	1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	30 F	2 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1-30	5-6 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	1-30	3 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	10-30	1-2 Town of Elma	Forsberg
"	"	13-29	2 Town of Wales	Rosche
Fox Sparrow	"	6-26	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	19	2 Cheektowaga	O'Dell

Fox Sparrow	April	20,21	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
(cont.)	"	20,25	1,1 Alfred	Klingensmith
Swamp Sparrow	"	16	3 Town of Birdsall	Brooks

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	114
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month. (including April Count)	48
Total for year	162

CORRIGENDUM

Prothonotary, Vol. 49:2, page 24. Under Tufted Titmouse, delete:

Jan. 5-20 1 Eggertsville Hulls

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Report of April Bird Count

Date: April 10, 1983

Compiled by Tom Harper

Weather: Temperature of 30° in the morning rising to the low 50's in the afternoon.
Rain in the morning, afternoon cloudy and rain again later in the day.
Winds were out of the southeast 5-10 mph, gusty at times.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and submitted. An asterisk indicates first 1983 record for the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon - 7	Gadwall - 52
*Red-necked Grebe - 2 (4)	Pintail - 518
Horned Grebe - 18	Green-winged Teal - 31
Pied-billed Grebe - 21	Blue-winged Teal - 201
D.-crest. Cormorant - 1 (9)	American Wigeon - 123
Gr. Blue Heron - 193	Northern Shoveler - 14
*Great Egret - 1 (11)	Wood Duck - 138
Tundra Swan - 30	Redhead - 21
Canada Goose - 21,105	Ring-necked Duck - 488
Mallard - 1,174	Canvasback - 48
Black Duck - 204	Greater Scaup - 283

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Loons - Mergansers

(continued)

Lesser Scaup - 181
Common Goldeneye - 553
Bufflehead - 851
Oldsquaw - 188
*White-w. Scoter - 3 (23)
Unidentified Scoter - 6 (7)

Ruddy Duck - 19
Hooded Merganser - 77
Common Merganser - 685
Red-br. Merganser - 1,257
Scaup species - 299

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 356
Sharp-sh. Hawk - 41
Cooper's Hawk - 17
Red-tailed Hawk - 310
Red-should. Hawk - 25
*Broad-w. Hawk F - 4 (6,14,24)
Rough-leg. Hawk - 9
Marsh Hawk - 33

Unidentified Buteos - 4
*Osprey F - 2 (14,20)
American Kestrel - 220
Ruffed Grouse - 62
Ring-n. Pheasant - 74
Turkey - 70
*Common Gallinule - 1 (6)
American Coot - 152

Shorebirds

Killdeer - 483
Amer. Woodcock - 23

*Common Snipe - 122
Greater Yellowlegs - 1 (26)

Jaegers - Flycatchers

Gr. Black-b. Gull - 50
Herring Gull - 976
Ring-b. Gull - 41,784
Bonaparte's Gull - 74
Unidentified Gull - 3,036
Rock Dove - 1,474
Mourning Dove - 1,297
Screech Owl - 3 (8,13,20)
Great Horned Owl - 23
*Barred Owl - 5
*Long-eared Owl - 2 (12,13)

Short-eared Owl - 3 (5,15)
Belted Kingfisher - 88
Common Flicker - 149
Pileated Woodpecker - 15
Red-bellied Wdpkr. - 21
Red-headed Wdpkr. - 7
Yellow-b. Sapsucker F - 5 (7,14,20)
Hairy Woodpecker - 85
Downy Woodpecker - 313
Eastern Phoebe - 71

Larks - Thrushes

Horned Lark - 113
Horned Lark (E. a. praticola) - 23
Tree Swallow - 483
*Barn Swallow F - 2 (20,26)
*Purple Martin F - 23
Blue Jay - 374

Common Crow - 2,151
Bl.-c. Chickadee - 1,416
Tufted Titmouse - 29
White-br. Nuthatch - 226
Red-br. Nuthatch - 25
Brown Creeper - 57

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Larks - Thrushes

(continued)

*Winter Wren F - 7	Brown Thrasher F - 4 (2,24,28)
Carolina Wren - 2 (7,8)	American Robin - 12,263
Mockingbird - 2 (1)	*Hermit Thrush F - 4, (9,20)
*Gray Catbird F - 4	Eastern Bluebird - 61

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Golden-cr. Kinglet F - 329	*Loggerhead Shrike F - 1 (19)
Rudy-cr. Kinglet - 2 (6,20)	Starling - 12,361
*Water Pipit F - 85 (14,15)	Yellow-r. Warbler - 15
Cedar Waxwing - 236	House Sparrow - 2,736

Blackbirds - Finches

E. Meadowlark - 308	Savannah Sparrow - 8
Red-w. Blackbird - 12,523	*Vesper Sparrow F - 2 (6,20)
Rusty Blackbird - 378	Dark-eyed Junco - 1,827
Common Grackle - 12,749	Tree Sparrow - 215
Brown-h. Cowbird - 1,902	Chipping Sparrow F - 10
Cardinal - 611	Field Sparrow - 41
Evening Grosbeak - 450	Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 8
Purple Finch - 246	Wh.-thr. Sparrow F - 96
House Finch - 800	Fox Sparrow - 7
Amer. Goldfinch - 882	Swamp Sparrow F - 15
Rufous-s. Towhee F - 15	Song Sparrow - 2,929

Total Species	119
Total Individuals	150,695

Comments: Horned Grebe 18 (10 year low), Mallard 1,174 (all time high), Green-w. Teal 31 (10 year low), Redhead 21 (10 year low), Greater Scaup 283 (all time low), Lesser Scaup 181 (10 year low), White-w. Scoter 3 (lowest since 1953), Turkey Vulture 356 (highest ever, previous high 180 in 1978), Sharp-sh. Hawk 41 (ties previous high set in 1970), Red-should. Hawk 25 (10 year high), Common Gallinule 1 (2 days early), Greater Yellowlegs 1 (ties 10 year low, 1979), Mourning Dove 1,297 (all time high), Tufted Titmouse 29 (10 year high), Evening Grosbeak 450 (10 year low), House Finch 800 (highest ever, previous high 405 in 1932), Savannah Sparrow 8 (lowest since 1957), Vesper Sparrow 2 (lowest since 1957), Fox Sparrow 7 (lowest since 1958).

Report of April Bird Count cont.

Sections and Observers: The compiler would like to thank all the section compilers and observers who made this count a success. In the list that follows, compilers names are underlined. Total observers - 269.

1. Fonthill, Ont. David Cooper, William Broderick.
2. Thorold, Ont. Gary Novosel.
3. Wilson, N.Y. Walter & Harriette Klabunde, Ann Miranian.
4. Middleport, N.Y. Robert Brock, Marge Harwitz.
5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. Dick Christensen, Peggy Christensen, Marion Smith, John Morse, Bill Townsend, Dick & Joan Baer.
6. Port Maitland, Ont. Jerry Chapple, Ed Williams, Robert Andrle, Joseph & John Thill.
7. Lowbank, Ont. Blayne Farnan, Kelli, Steven, Mark & Bob Farnan, Dr. & Mrs. White, Ken MacDonald, Art Schaffner.
8. Fort Erie, Ont. Mike Zebehazy.
9. Grand Island, N.Y. Karen Renning, Jack & Marge Wright.
10. Akron, N.Y. Robert Wagner, Willard & Alice McKale.
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Julia Wells, Peggy Daniels, Jane Heyer, Brad Lown, Fred Sepp, George Smith, Karen Renning.
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Katherine Danner, Ray Franz, Tom, Kathy, Rhett & Kyle Harper.
13. Batavia, N.Y. George Mahaney, Don Thuray, Dave Keller, Dave Whitcomb, Marge Pixley, Robert & Eileen Hull.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Barbara Walker, Pat Firey, Miles Firey, Grace O'Dell, EV & Bob Mauser, Mae Ruhl, Ken Brander, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Mary Saville, Thelma Pikett, Berniece Reinhart, Barbara Howard, Betty Wilson, Jane Skrypie, Phyl Hansen, Betty Harris, Mary & Clarence Herbst, Clare Stohl.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Art and Olga Rosche.

Report of April Bird Count cont.

16. Angola, N.Y. Paul and Alene Smith.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Wavel & Maxine Barber, Clare Henderson, Audrey Horbett.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark.
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Jean Perry, Fay Clancy, Lois Fiegl, Victor Carpenter, Alice Evans, James Mullen, Larry Mullen, Larry Wilson, Tom & Debby Beardsley, Joan Esley, Gen & Les Fish, Alora Smith, Marian & Emmette Smith, Midge & H.K. Smith, Helen Leet.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Jim Bowser, Nancy Bowser, Doug Carlson, Kevin Carlson, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Joe Gula, Jr., Morgan Jones, Judy Kumler, Phil Kumler, Dick Miga, Terry Mahoney, Judy Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Ari Richardson, Bev Ruska, John Ruska, Cal Peterson, Marty Sanden, Tom Welch.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Robert Sundell, Jamestown Audubon Society, Dorthy Pihlblad, Carol Roby.
22. Sherman, N.Y. Not covered.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Corl Belknap, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Laura Keller, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Robert & Mary Shaul, Thomas Simmons, Thomas Simmons, Jr.
24. Allegany State Park, N.Y. John & Mary Forness, Tim Baird, Michele Bush.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Tim Baird, Dorothy Baker, Lucille Bordanaro, John & Mary Forness, Charles Green, Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Carl Seagren, Rosamond Seagren.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Betty Compton, Mary Jordan, Bruce Smalley, Ann Scott, Sharon Baumgardner, John Compton, Dustin Fleming, Alfred Voorhies.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Doris Hurlburt, Lillian Simons, Betty & James Hooker, Celestia Abbott, Helen Apsey, Helen Link, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanfrod.

Report of April Bird Count cont.

23. Alfred, N.Y.

Allegany County Bird Club, Betsy Brooks, Lois Chapman, Dorothy & Warren Bouck, Warren Brooks, Becky, Jimmy & Lorry Chapman, Ann Eisenhardt, Peter & Judy Finlay, Eva Ford, George Hermann, Barbara Keough, Cathy MacDonald, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Suzanne Wood.

Dorothy Bayless, Russell Allen, Bertha & Leo Alsworth, Fred Bayless, Esther Biehl, The Brinks, Vivian Brownell, Susan, Caroline & Jim Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Mildred Hayes, Ben & Fay Heller, Viola Ide, Marjorie & Ed Mason, Linn Phelan, Pauline Sanford, Violet Sharrett, Allen & Gladys Witter.

Conner Stephens, Bea Common, Wisner Cook, Kathy & Tom Kent, Ken McClure, Jim Ninos.

Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Lou Burton, Clifford Button, David & Roberta Clark, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick.

Vera Brown, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Claribel James, Genevieve McQueen, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Theodore & Lorena Vossler.

Erma Larson, Myrtle Brown, Carl & Betty Burdick, Lucille Frank, Helen Graves, Mary McCarn, Evelyn Openhym, David & Ona Reynolds, Ruth Smith, Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mrs. Gordon Taggart, Frances Thompson.

903 Broadway, Darien Center, N.Y. 14040

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of April 13, 1983

The 928th meeting of the Society was opened by President Wavel Barber. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Membership: Edwin O'Reilly, Thomas Connare and Rose Kuma were proposed and approved for Associate Membership.

Treasurer William Townsend read a letter from Mrs. Harold Mitchell which accompanied a monetary contribution. The letter expressed Harold's appreciation for the Society.

Bob Andrie explained the procedure that he and Bob Brock are following in contacting atlasers, recommending that they survey uncovered blocks adjacent to ones that they have done, with the goal being to survey all blocks. He thanked Bob Brock for the help he is providing.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of April 13, 1983 cont.

Walter Klabunde described the lectures and programs at the recent Hawk Migration Conference in Rochester.

Local bird sightings were reported.

Program: A Symposium on Sparrows, presented by Marc Chelemer, featuring identification hints for these superficially quite similar grassland- and shrubland-inhabiting members of the family of New World Seed eaters, Fringilidae. He used sketches and a set of charts on which roughly a dozen sparrows were arranged according to the possession, in combination, of specific head, tail and breast markings. Each was seen to be fairly recognizable. Exceptions to the "rules" and additional helpful identification hints were revealed in the group discussion which developed from Marc's presentation.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Braddock Bay Field Trip - April 24, 1983

"You should have been here yesterday!" was the typical comment heard by the eight of us who traveled to Braddock Bay for our joint venture with the Genesee Ornithological Society. The marvelous weather of the previous day had brought with it a flight of nearly 900 raptors.

By contrast, our day was overcast, cold, and rainy, with winds out of the northeast and, needless to say, a fruitless day for hawkwatching. Nevertheless, the perseverance of our hosts, led by Warren Lloyd, carried us through the day as we covered the surrounding fields and ponds searching out recent migrants.

Our first effort was at the marsh edge near the lookout where, with the help of a tape recording, Warren managed to call up a Virginia Rail. Everyone caught at least a glimpse as our quarry skulked through the reeds.

The rest of the morning was spent driving the roadways in the area. We located a small group of Dunlin, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, and two Short-billed Dowitchers. The highlight of the morning was a small flock of Brewer's Blackbirds. This species has been found in the same vicinity for the last few years now. The glossy violet-green body and yellow eye of the male were clearly seen with the aid of a spotting scope. Meanwhile, on the other side of the road, a group of about twelve Common Snipe were making their way through the wet grass. At a different location a special treat for us was an excellent view of a Great Horned Owl sitting on a nest, probably brooding young.

Returning to the Braddock Bay site for shelter, warmth, and lunch, we learned of a report of a Eurasian Wigeon at the Sawyer Road borrow pit. This is located just south of the Lakeshore Parkway at the Lake Shore Road exit. Unfor-

Braddock Bay Field Trip cont.

Unfortunately, we were unable to locate this uncommon visitor. All was not in vain, however. Returning to Lake Shore Road, this time north of the Parkway, we found, for the third time in as many years, a Western Meadowlark in full song and, finally, in full view.

We finished off the day with a quick stop at the Cayuga Pool of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge where we managed to add a few more species to our list bringing the total to sixty-one. Although our raptor quest was quashed by the elements, we still enjoyed a good day of birding. Thank you Warren and all the GOS people for your kind assistance. We look forward to seeing you in November.

Mike Zebehazy
1469 E. Quaker Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of April 27, 1983

The 929th meeting of the B.O.S. was opened by President Wavel Barber.

Program: Joanne Monaco, Alan Metton and Douglas Kerr, representatives of the Power Authority of the State of New York, discussed the possible impact to waterfowl populations at the Lewiston power reservoir of planned construction work. The members were invited to join in and add their ideas and comments.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved. The Program and Field Trip Chairpersons' reports were given, outlining upcoming events.

Membership: Mrs. Clarence O. Pratt of Lyndonville was nominated and approved for Associate Membership.

Nominating Committee: Fran Rew, recently appointed Chairwoman of the 1983-84 B.O.S. Nominating Committee, mentioned that this committee will welcome volunteer members. Fran also requested that a notice be issued in The Prothonotary reminding members that the Society has a Memorial Fund for gifts and/or donations.

Dr. Bob Andrie passed along information about recent bird sightings and the status of Tiff Farm Nature Preserve, which is closed until further notice.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by
Maxine Barber, for Karen Renning,
Secretary

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION NAME CHANGES
IN NIAGARA FRONTIER REGION BIRD SPECIES

The sixth edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, which will appear in 1983, additionally will cover species from Bermuda, the West Indies and Middle America (Mexico through Panama), including adjacent islands. It will contain many changes in the English and scientific names of birds as well as changes in species sequence. Some changes are minor, merely involving the addition of a hyphen or a modifier, or the change of a modifier in the English name, but a few species are given entirely new names. Some changes in generic and specific names include a few endings altered to make them agree in gender. All these changes will be incorporated in the revised Field Check-list and Verification Date Guide of the Society, which will be available in 1983. Please use these new English names in reporting your observations to the Society.

The following lists contain the English and scientific name changes for all bird species recorded in our region. These changes are included in Supplement 34 of The Auk (Vol. 99, pp. 1-16CC, 1982), which provides an updated list of bird species recorded through December 1981 from Canada and the United States (including Hawaii), using the sequence, taxonomy and English names of the sixth edition.

Robert F. Andriele, Frances M. Rew
Statisticians

English Names

<u>Old Name</u>	<u>New Name</u>
Gannet	Northern Gannet
White Pelican	American White Pelican
Louisiana Heron	Tricolored Heron
Green Heron	Green-backed Heron
Black-crowned Night Heron	Black-crowned Night-Heron
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
Whistling Swan	Tundra Swan
White-fronted Goose	Greater White-fronted Goose
Black Duck	American Black Duck
Pintail	Northern Pintail
European Wigeon	Eurasian Wigeon
Swallow-tailed Kite	American Swallow-tailed Kite
Marsh Hawk	Northern Harrier
Goshawk	Northern Goshawk
Turkey	Wild Turkey
Bobwhite	Northern Bobwhite
Common Gallinule	Common Moorhen
American Golden Plover	Lesser Golden-Plover
Northern Phalarope	Red-necked Phalarope
Skua	Great Skua
Black-headed Gull	Common Black-headed Gull
Barn Owl	Common Barn-Owl
Screech Owl	Eastern Screech-Owl

English Names

<u>Old Name</u>	<u>New Name</u>
Hawk-Owl	Northern Hawk-Owl
Saw-whet Owl	Northern Saw-whet Owl
Northern Three-toed Woodpecker	Three-toed Woodpecker
Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker	Black-backed Woodpecker
Common Flicker	Northern Flicker
Eastern Wood Pewee	Eastern Wood-Pewee
Rough-winged Swallow	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Common Crow	American Crow
Short-billed Marsh Wren	Sedge Wren
Long-billed Marsh Wren	Marsh Wren
Wheatear	Northern Wheatear
Mockingbird	Northern Mockingbird
Starling	European Starling
Cardinal	Northern Cardinal
Tree Sparrow	American Tree Sparrow

Scientific Names

<u>English Name</u>	<u>Old Scientific Name</u>	<u>New Scientific Name</u>
Eared Grebe	<i>Podiceps caspicus</i>	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	<i>Sula bassanus</i>
Snowy Egret	<i>Leucophoyx thula</i>	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Little Blue Heron	<i>Florida caerulea</i>	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>
Tricolored Heron	<i>Hydranassa tricolor</i>	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>
Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Yellow-cr. Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	<i>Nycticorax violaceus</i>
Tundra Swan	<i>Olor columbianus</i>	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>
Snow Goose	<i>Chen hyperborea</i>	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas carolinensis</i>	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	<i>Anas penelope</i>
American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>	<i>Anas americana</i>
Black Scoter	<i>Oidemia nigra</i>	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>
White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>
Chukar	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>
Black-bellied Plover	<i>Squatarola squatarola</i>	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Totanus melanoleucus</i>	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Totanus flavipes</i>	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>
Wandering Tattler	<i>Heteroscelus incanum</i>	<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i>
Sanderling	<i>Crocethia alba</i>	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Ereunetes pusillus</i>	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>
Western Sandpiper	<i>Ereunetes mauri</i>	<i>Calidris mauri</i>
Least Sandpiper	<i>Erolia minutilla</i>	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>
White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Erolia fuscicollis</i>	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>
Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Erolia bairdii</i>	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Erolia melanotos</i>	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Erolia maritima</i>	<i>Calidris maritima</i>

Scientific Names

<u>English Name</u>	<u>Old Scientific Name</u>	<u>New Scientific Name</u>
Dunlin	<i>Erolia alpina</i>	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Erolia ferruginea</i>	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Micropalama himantopus</i>	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Capella gallinago</i>	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
American Woodcock	<i>Philohela minor</i>	<i>Scolopax minor</i>
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Steganopus tricolor</i>	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Lobipes lobatus</i>	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>
Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	<i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
Least Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Centurus carolinus</i>	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos pubescens</i>	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos villosus</i>	<i>Picoides villosus</i>
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Nuttallornis borealis</i>	<i>Contopus borealis</i>
Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>
Tree Swallow	<i>Iridoprocne bicolor</i>	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	<i>Certhia americana</i>
Marsh Wren	<i>Telmatodytes palustris</i>	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>
Veery	<i>Hylocichla fuscescens</i>	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>
Gray-cheeked Thrush	<i>Hylocichla minima</i>	<i>Catharus minimus</i>
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Hylocichla ustulata</i>	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>
Hermit Thrush	<i>Hylocichla guttata</i>	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>
Bohemian Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla garrula</i>	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>
Green-tailed Towhee	<i>Chlorura chlorura</i>	<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>
Henslow's Sparrow	<i>Passerherbulus henslowii</i>	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>
LeConte's Sparrow	<i>Passerherbulus caudacutus</i>	<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	<i>Ammospiza caudacuta</i>	<i>Ammodramus caudacutus</i>
Pine Siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>
Common Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>
Hoary Redpoll	<i>Acanthis hornemanni</i>	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>
American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>
Evening Grosbeak	<i>Hesperiphona vespertina</i>	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>

BIRDS AND POETS PUNSTERS!

A Quiz. What bird...

1. is an outfielder?
2. had a husband named Charles William?
3. is a decay of Bartlett or Bosc?
4. has 144 bills?
5. is heavenly humor?
6. describes climbing a hill?
7. is a Soviet census?
8. is what the thieves are doing?
9. is an invoice for flatware?
10. precedes digestion?
11. is a sad letter?
12. is car fuel?
13. seems like an old-time movie?
14. is sour, sort of?
15. is a donkey game?

Answers under "Notes".

groaningly submitted by Audrey Horbett

NOTES

Double-crested Cormorant at Amity Lake

I was just returning from a walk at 11:15 a.m. today, April 4, 1933, and was about to enter our house at Amity Lake, Belmont, N.Y., when a peculiar all-black bird, larger than a Black Duck, silently flew in just over the tree tops and settled on the water out front. Hastily fumbling a key into the lock, struggling out of boots and grabbing the already set-up scope, I rushed out onto the porch to focus the 20-power scope (Bushnell) on the large bird floating low in the water about 150 feet away. The sky was overcast but visibility was good. The bird alternately dove and floated, remaining under water for what seemed like a long period each time. With very long straight neck, it carried its long head high. The uptilted, dark, very slender bill had a downward hook at the swollen tip. Beginning at the eye, the front lower part of the face was orange and on each side of the top of the head was a little tuft of feathers which the wind caught and ruffled as the bird nervously looked this way and that. Sometimes after a dive, and always as silent as death, the bird would rise out of the water, almost sitting on its stubby tail as it opened its wings which were pointed at the "shoulder".

I could see no white on the bird such as a loon would show and even the undersides of the wings were a deep black, not white like the Black Duck's. The bird appeared about the size of a Common Loon but its tail was longer and more fan shaped and the bill was more slender with a hook at the end. It had no neck ring or white dapples on the back, but was all black except for the orange on the lower part of the face. I am sure this was a Double-crested Cormorant, a species I first saw on Lake Ontario and more recently on Long Island this past fall, there being large numbers at the latter location.

Double-crested Cormorant at Amity Lake cont.

After about five minutes, the bird took to the air, circling to gain altitude, its wings beating mostly below the horizontal line of the body -- a witch-like grabbing of the air. The flight rhythm was an alternate succession of quick wing beats followed by a short glide. When it was well above the tree tops, it disappeared toward the southeast.

This is the first time we have seen the Double-crested Cormorant at Amity Lake.

Vivian Mills Pitzrick
Amity Lake, Belmont, NY 14813

An Unusual Color Variant of the Cedar Waxwing

In the winter 1983 issue of The Kingbird, Robert Spahn reported in "Highlights of the Fall Season" that a birder in Green County had banded 2 Cedar Waxwings with the orange tail band typical of the Japanese race of Cedar Waxwings. I was unaware of the existence of this race but made a mental note to check all future encounters with Cedar Waxwings to check for unusually colored tail bands.

Just 4 days later, on April 8, 1983, eight Cedar Waxwings flew into one of my nets and incredibly one individual had a bright orange tail band, clearly contrasting with the other 7 birds who had the typical chrome yellow tail tip. I banded the "Japanese race" bird (#1301-14101) and when a polaroid photograph of the bird held with a normally colored Cedar Waxwing failed to adequately show the color difference, I pulled one tail feather of each bird (they will grow back!) as positive proof!

To date, I have not been able to find any information in the literature about this "Japanese race" but intend to write to the bander who reported the encounter in Green County, NY. It will be interesting to discover how common they are -- so be on the alert for Cedar Waxwings with bright orange tail tips. They should be able to be seen with ease, especially if in the company of other normally yellow-colored Cedar Waxwings.

Elizabeth W. Brooks
RD #1, Alfred Station, NY 14803

Bird Quiz Answers

1) Flycatcher; 2) Chuck Will's Widow; 3) Parrot; 4) Grosbeak; 5) Godwit; 6) Puffin; 7) Redpoll; 8) Robin; 9) Spoonbill; 10) Swallow; 11) Blue Jay; 12) Petrel; 13) Flicker; 14) Bittern; 15) Pintail.

FIELD TRIPS

July 24th: Canada for Shorebirds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 8:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie. Leader: Dr. Harold Axtell (416-871-6999).

August 21st: Canada for Shorebirds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Vermont and Busti or 8:15 a.m. at the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690).

For further information on these and upcoming trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairwoman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Robert Andrle, Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing),
Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

ANNUAL BANQUET ANNOUNCEMENT

The Buffalo Ornithological Society will hold its annual banquet on Friday, October 14, 1983 at the Park Lane Manor House on Delaware Avenue at Gates Circle in Buffalo. A six-course sit-down meal will commence at 8 P.M. The meal will be preceded by a cash bar at 7:30 P.M. The meeting agenda will consist of a review of the year's activities, election of officers, and our featured speaker. Dr. William O. Robinson, from the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, will present a slide show and discussion on "Shorebirds." Dr. Robinson and his son, Scott, have spent many years traveling and compiling their collection of shorebird photographs and information. With his experience and wit, Bill is certain to provide an amusing and informative talk to our Society. Reservations for the Banquet may be secured by mailing the coupon below to:

Marc. J. Chelemer
Banquet Reservations
555 Breckenridge
Buffalo, NY 14222

Please reserve _____ places at the BOS Annual Banquet. I have indicated my choice of meals below and am enclosing a check or money order to cover meal costs. Checks should be made out to Buffalo Ornithological Society. Prices include tax and gratuity.

MENU

Soup du Jour
Peter Gust's Chef's Salad

Broiled Fresh White Fish
(in Maitre d'Hotel butter)

Roast Prime Rib of Beef
(au Jus)

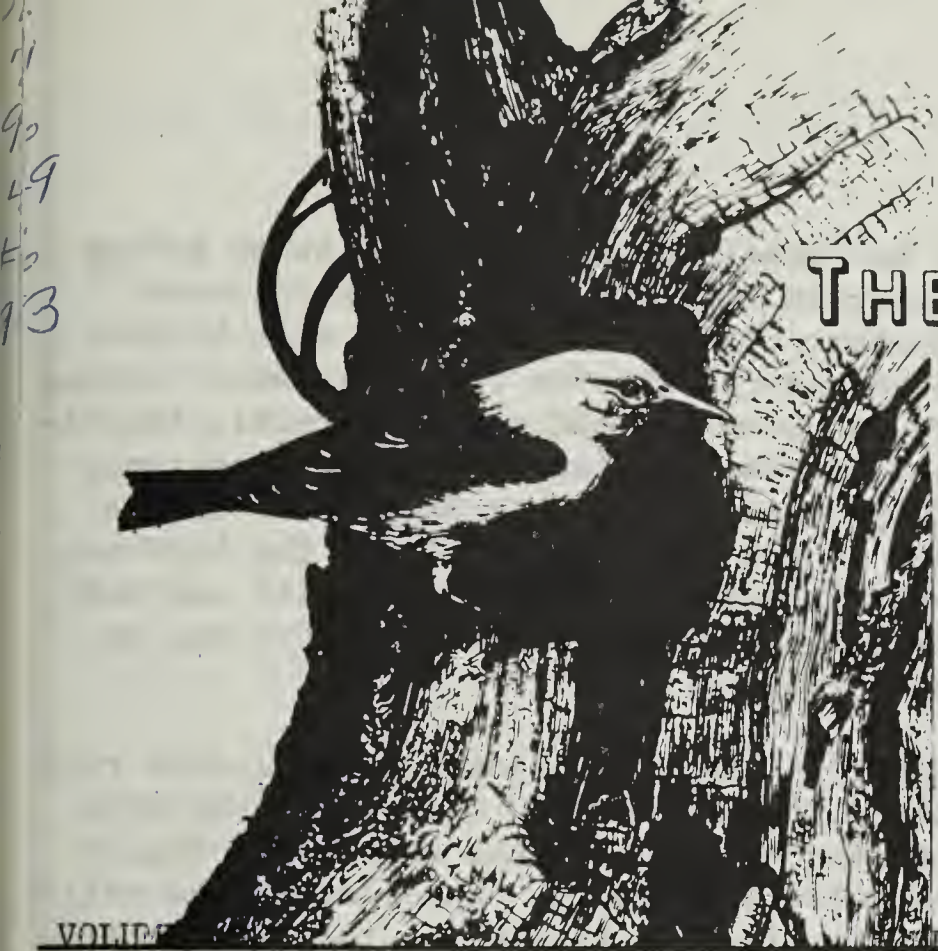
Potato and Vegetable
Rolls and Butter
Dessert
Coffee, Sanka, Tea, or Milk

Fish @ \$12.25 _____

Beef @ \$15.00 _____

Total _____

Name and Address _____



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ALBERT R. MANN
BUFFALO, NEW YORK LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

SEP 02 1983

VOLUME 1933

NUMBER 6

THE MONTH

May was a cool and wet month with some precipitation in the form of rain occurring every weekend until the end of the period. The month began on an ominous note when hot and humid weather pumped in by a big low pressure system on May 2nd precipitated violent thunderstorms throughout much of Western New York and a tornado in Chautauqua County which caused two deaths and over a million dollars in property damage in the towns of Sherman and Chautauqua. The weather was changeable for the rest of the month with a trace of snow in the higher elevations of the Southern Tier counties on May 3th and hard frosts in the valleys in Cattaraugus and Allegany counties between the 17th and the 26th. The average temperature for the period was 53.9° (F), a departure of -2.2° from the norm with precipitation measuring 3.28 inches, 0.39 inches above average. Only 48% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

In spite of the rather negative weather conditions on each weekend in May, it was a banner month for bird migration both in variety and numbers of species observed. Warm southerly winds during the night of May 13th brought a substantial migration of birds through the Niagara Frontier region. On the following day, observers at the Pinehurst lookout in the Town of Hamburg reported the passage of "several hundred warblers," 1,232 Blue Jays, 390 Northern Orioles and 16 Sharp-shinned Hawks among the birds they observed from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Yet, in spite of reports of excellent migrations almost everywhere in our study area in May, the big ornithological event of the month proved to be the draining of the water impoundment known as the Cayuga Pool on the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge on N.Y. Route #77 in Genesee County. This created a vast expanse of mudflats which attracted unprecedented numbers and species of shorebirds for that locality. On May 11th, John Morse was one of a number of observers who saw a Hudsonian Godwit in changing plumage feeding on these flats. Also present was a Wilson's Phalarope in non-descript plumage. On May 23rd, two Wilson's Phalaropes were seen there in the company of a flock of 150 Least Sandpipers and other shorebirds. On May 18th, an American Avocet

in breeding plumage was seen on mud flats by Morse, Thomas Prusa and other refuge personnel. This bird was striking in appearance with its white and black back, white belly and rich tan-colored head and neck. It was subsequently seen by many observers until May 27th and rumors of its demise earlier in that week were refuted by John Morse; a white-colored snag protruding from the mud was incorrectly identified as the remains of the avocet. Another uncommon vagrant making an appearance on these mudflats in May was the Glossy Ibis. Dennis and Mary Seekins of Medina observed an ibis there, feeding at the edge of the marsh on May 1st. The bird was observed feeding in water a few inches deep although the long curved bill and dull, greenish-bronze body and head were clearly visible. A second Glossy Ibis was reported on the mudflats on May 26th by John Morse.

Bruce Duncan reported a Snowy Egret in the pond adjoining the access road to the Erco Fertilizer plant at Port Maitland, Dunn Township, Ontario on May 4th. This bird was first observed by Duncan standing on rocks on the shore of a feeder canal before flying to the pond with three gulls in pursuit. He observed the yellow feet, the chest and head plumes and yellow eye ring distinguishing this small heron from the immature Little Blue Heron. On May 14th, a second Snowy Egret was seen by Paul Hess at Mud Lake, a marshy conservation area north of Port Colborne, Ontario. On May 16th, a Snowy Egret was seen at the Tifft Farm Nature Preserve at Buffalo and two egrets were present there the following day.

Terry Mosher of Fredonia writes that a White Pelican made its appearance on Lake Erie at Point Gratiot in Chautauqua County on May 19th; this bird and a second pelican were seen by many local bird-watchers between Dunkirk Harbor and west to Van Buren Bay through the remainder of the month.

On May 9th, Flora and Theodore Elderkin of Jamestown were bird-watching on the West Perimeter Road along the Allegheny Reservoir in the Town of Cold Spring in Cattaraugus County when they saw a vulture circling 200 feet above them. This bird did not have the wing-body configuration of the Turkey Vulture which is a common summer resident in that area. The wings of this bird, which the Elderkins correctly identified as a Black Vulture, were wider than those of the Turkey Vulture with conspicuous large white patches near the wing tips. The black head, short broad tail and characteristic quick flapping flight alternating with short glides were all noted. During the period of observation which exceeded ten minutes, a Turkey Vulture flew overhead offering the Elderkins an excellent basis of comparing the two species.

On May 5th, Frances Rew and Robert Andrie had a welcome interruption to their lunch on the Lake Road near the east end of Erie Beach in the Town of Fort Erie when an adult Peregrine Falcon flew over their car. On May 11th, Art Schaffner and Terry Mosher also saw an adult Peregrine Falcon flying over Point Gratiot near Dunkirk.

On May 18th, Arthur Clark and Arthur Schaffner visited Mohawk Island, a small limestone outcropping in Lake Erie, 3 km. off of the north shore of the lake at Rock Point Provincial Park in Sherbrooke Township, Ontario where the flat shingle beach is most attractive as a nesting site for Herring and Ring-billed Gulls which in recent years have completely displaced the Common Tern colony which formerly

shared the island with them. Clark and Schaffner counted 65 Double-crested Cormorants including 12 nesting pairs -- a new breeding species for our study area although the discovery hardly comes as a surprise, given the dramatic increase in the numbers of this cormorant in western Lake Erie in recent years. A census made during that visit also indicated over 1,000 Ring-billed Gull nests and 283 Herring Gull nests. Also on this date, Clark visited the Water Diversion Pier in the west branch of the Niagara River at Buckhorn Island State Park on Grand Island and counted 6,530 Ring-billed Gull nests, 28 Herring Gull nests and 13 Common Tern nests. Comparing these data with figures for a similar count in 1979 indicates an increase of 53% in the number of Ring-billed Gulls nesting there, an increase of 154% in the number of Herring Gulls and a decrease of 68% in the number of terns.

Ravens continue to be reported from the Phillips Creek and Vandermark State Reforestation Areas in the Town of Ward in Allegany County. On May 29th, Elizabeth Brooks saw two and possibly three Common Ravens while conducting a breeding bird census on a 41 acre section of mature conifers in the Vandermark area. On the following day she heard the characteristic deep croaking of birds in a nearby wooded ravine but she was unable to see the birds.

On May 21st, Terry Mosher and Allen Benton and ten other members of the Lake Erie Bird Club located an Acadian Flycatcher in a wooded area known as Wheeler's Gulf, 1-1/2 miles south of the Village of Fredonia in the Town of Pomfret. The bird was identified by its distinctive "pit-see" song distinguishing it from its congeners, the Least, Alder and Willow Flycatchers to which it bears a strong morphological resemblance.

Other interesting records for May include ten Northern Mockingbirds seen by Dr. R. L. Sommerville of Fort Erie in a four block area in St. Catherine's, Ontario on May 4th. Many reports of White-eyed Vireos, hitherto a very local summer resident and rare passage migrant, were received in May. One was seen by many observers in the heavy brush and trees in the old amusement park grounds at Erie Beach, Ontario where it remained a week between the 14th and the 21st. Esther Becker reports that the male Lawrence's Warbler seen for the past two years in the overgrown pasture behind St. Joseph's Cemetery in the Town of Holland returned again in May where she saw it on the 22nd. However, a male Blue-winged Warbler apparently pre-empted the bird's territory shortly thereafter. Paul Hess reported a rare male Kentucky Warbler in the heavy vegetation bordering the path on the west side of Mud Lake near Port Colborne, Ontario. The bird was first seen by Robert Andrie and his party on the previous day. Worm-eating Warblers were seen at Chestnut Ridge Park by Grace O'Dell on May 5th and at the Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary near Dunkirk by Frances Rew on the 7th. A third Worm-eating Warbler was alleged to have been seen by an unidentified observer at the Tiffit Farm Nature Preserve in Buffalo on May 14th. Peter Yoerg had excellent views of an adult male Yellow-headed Blackbird at a feeder at a home on N.Y. Route #19 in Fillmore in Allegany County on May 1st. The diagnostic yellow-brown hood, bright yellow breast and white wing marks were noted. The owner of the residence told Yoerg that this bird had been at that location at least three weeks prior to that date. Terry Mosher writes that Morgan Jones heard a Clay-colored Sparrow singing at the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County on May 21st. The bird was heard in the approximate

location where a singing male of this species was reported last year. Finally, Ward Klepfer reported an adult male Orchard Oriole at Erie Beach, Ontario on May 7th. Orchard Orioles were also seen at a residence on Hanover Street in the Village of Silver Creek in Chautauqua County in May.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

MAY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	May	1-20	1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	1	2 Bear Lake	Rew
	"	1	2 Cassadaga Lake	Rew
	"	7	2 Town of Hamburg	Schaffner
	"	8	1 Lowbanks, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	21	1 Cassadaga Lake	Mosher et al
	"	22	1 Dunkirk	Schaffner, Clarks
	"	31	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Schaffner
*White Pelican	"	22	2 Point Gratiot	Schaffner, Clarks
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	4	8 Dunkirk Harbor	McKales
	"	5	4 LaSalle Park, Bflo.	Hess
	"	13	41 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Duncan
	"	18	65 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
		(including 12 breeding pairs)		
	"	26	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
*Cattle Egret	"	23	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner, Clarks
Great Egret	"	11	2 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	12	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
	"	21	1 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
	"	29	1 Tonawanda WMA	Andrle et al
	"	30	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner
*Snowy Egret	"	4	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Duncan
	"	14	1 Mud Lake, Ont.	Hess
Bl.-cr. Night Heron	"	4	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	16	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	17,18	1,1 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
	"	18	1 Grand Island	Schaffner, Clark
	"	21	3 Tonawanda WMA	McKales

*Least Bittern	May	21	1 Tonawanda WMA	McKales
	"	30	1 Tonawanda WMA	Schaffner
*Glossy Ibis	"	1	1 Iroquois NWR	Seekins
	"	26	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, Olsen
*Brant	"	18	2 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
Ring-necked Duck	"	23	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle, Brock
*Black Vulture	"	9	1 Town of Cold Spring	Elderkins
Turkey Vulture	"	7	13 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
	"	24	3 over Buffalo	Hess
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	4	30 over Hamburg	Hess
	"	7	207 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Cooper's Hawk	"	1	2 over Pinehurst	Andrle
	"	1-31	1-2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	7	3 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Northern Goshawk	"	12	1 Town of Hamburg	Hess
Red-tailed Hawk	"	7	15 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	7	44 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Osprey	"	1	1 Cassadaga Lake	Rew
	"	1-10	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	4	1 Hamburg	Hess
	"	6	2 Frewsburg	Elderkins
	"	7	4 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
	"	10	1 Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
	"	18	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	20	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
*Peregrine Falcon	"	5	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Rew, Andrle
	"	11	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Schaffner
American Kestrel	"	7	12 over Pinehurst	Schaffner
Wild Turkey	"	20	1 Town of Newstead	McKales
*Semipalm. Plover	"	11 F	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	11 F	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	20	100 Iroquois NWR	McKales
*Black-bell. Plover	"	7 F, 8	1, 1 Crescent Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	16, 25	2, 1 Iroquois NWR	Morse
Ruddy Turnstone	"	18	7 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Schaffner, Clark
	"	26	1 Town of Amherst	McKales
*Whimbrel	"	20 F, 26	6, 2 Iroquois NWR	Morse
	"	23	4 Rosehill, Ont.	Hess
	"	23	2 Crescent Beach, Ont.	Hess
Upland Sandpiper	"	1, 2	2, 3 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
*Red Knot	"	18 F	1 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	2	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	8	5 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
*Least Sandpiper	"	12 F	90 Iroquois NWR	Hess
	"	19	150 Iroquois NWR	Schaffner
Dunlin	"	11 F	5 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	18	50 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Schaffner, Clark
Semi-palm. Sandpiper	"	13	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Schaffner, Clark

*Hudsonian Godwit	May	11	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, D'Anna
*Sanderling	"	18 F	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Schaffner, Clark
*American Avocet	"	27	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess et al
*Wilson's Phalarope	"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	Morse, D'Anna et al
Caspian Tern	"	18	1 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	"	18	1 Port Maitland, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
	"	21	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	22	4 Crescent Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
*Black Tern	"	11 F	10 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	20	4 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Black-b. Cuckoo	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
	"	24	1 Alfred	Brooks
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	"	22	1 Town of Hamburg	Schaffner, Clark
	"	25	1 Town of New Hudson	Burtons, Jordan
Common Nighthawk	"	22	2 Point Gratiot	Schaffner, Clark
*Whip-poor-will	"	1 F	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
Chimney Swift	"	7	127 over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
*Ruby-t. Hummingbird	"	8 F, 11	1, 2 Belmont	Burtons
	"	10-31	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1	1 Belmont	Burtons
	"	29	1 Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	11	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	13	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	15	2 Lake Erie State Pk.	Goetz, Flory
	"	24	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	27	1 Kiantone	Elderkin
*Eastern Kingbird	"	2 F	2 Ivory	Elderkin
	"	2 F	2 Town of Stockton	Mosher
	"	3-31	1-3 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	7, 21, 22	40, 37, 96 over Pinehurst	Schaffner
Gr. Crest. Flycatch.	"	2	1 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
*Yellow-b. Flycatch.	"	17 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Acadian Flycatcher	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
	"	31	3 Town of Pomfret	Rew
Willow Flycatcher	"	21	1 Town of Cold Spring	Elderkin
	"	21 F	2 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	21 F	1 Cassadaga	Mosher, Mahoney
	"	21 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Goetz, Flory
	"	31	3 Fredonia	Schaffner
Alder Flycatcher	"	24-31	2-13 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	25	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Hess
*Least Flycatcher	"	3 F-31	1-6 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	6	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	6	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
*E. Wood Pewee	"	8 F	1 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	13	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	27 F	1 Dunn Twp., Ont.	Duncan
	"	30	1 Town of Cold Spring	Elderkin
Cliff Swallow	"	1	2 Town of Hanover	Goetz, Flory
	"	3	2 Randolph	Elderkin

Blue Jay	May	7,21	800,2565	over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
	"	22,25	870,3616	over Pinehurst	Schaffner, Clark
Common Raven	"	29,30	2,1	Alfred	Brooks
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	2	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	2-31	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
*House Wren	"	2 F,5	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	2 F-31	1-4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	5	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Rew
*Long-billed Marsh Wren	"	18 F	2	Stromness, Ont.	Schaffner, Clark
Mockingbird	"	4	10	St. Catharine's, Ont.	Sommerville
	"	20	1	Belmont	Burtons
	"	25	1	Town of Hamburg	Schaffner
	"	29	1	Iroquois NWR	Andrle et al
Gray Catbird	"	1	1	Town of Stockton	Rew
	"	2	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
*Wood Thrush	"	1 F-31	2-6	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	2	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	2	1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	2	1	Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
*Swainson's Thrush	"	8 F	2	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	25,26	1,1	Elma	Forsberg
*Gray-ch. Thrush	"	9 F	1	Town of Pomfret	Rew
	"	20	1	Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
*Veery	"	9 F-31	1-6	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	11	1	Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	6	Alfred	Brooks
	"	1-31	2	Town of Hanover	Goetz et al
	"	1-31	26	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
			(13 pairs nesting)		
	"	2	3	Frewsburg	Elderkin
	"	2,24	1,2	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	11	2	Forestville	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	31	1	Town of Pomfret	Schaffner
*Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	1 F	1	Orchard Park	Andrle, Foster
	"	11	1	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
	"	11	2	Point Gratiot	Mosher, Schaffner
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	11,20,29	4,5,3	Alfred	Brooks
			(previously documented nesting sites)		
Water Pipit	"	1	7	Kent Switch	Rew
	"	2	12	Town of Amity	Burtons, Jordan
*White-eyed Vireo	"	7 F	1	Williamsville	Yoerg
	"	17,20	1,1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
*Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	8 F	1	Mud Lake, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	13-31	1-3	Spring Brook	Danner
*Solitary Vireo	"	2 F-29	1-3	Alfred	Brooks
	"	2 F,24	1,1	Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	5-31	1-5	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Red-eyed Vireo	"	8 F	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
	"	13-31	1-5	Spring Brook	Danner

Philadelphia Vireo	May	20	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	"	21	1 Alfred	Brooks
*Warbling Vireo	"	6 F	1 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	7-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	7	2 East Aurora	Andrle et al
*Bl. & w. Warbler	"	5 F	1 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	7-27	1-2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Worm-eating Warbler	"	7	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew
*Golden-w. Warbler	"	14 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	14 F	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	16, 18	1, 1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
*Blue-w. Warbler	"	2 F-31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	5	1 Elma	Forsberg
*Brewster's Warbler	"	13 F	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	17	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	17	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Tennessee Warbler	"	10 F-23	1-5 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	20	1 Alfred	Brooks
Orange-cr. Warbler	"	11	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Mosher, Schaffner
*Nashville Warbler	"	2 F, 3	1, 2 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	6	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
Northern Parula	"	20	1 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
"	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
Yellow Warbler	"	1	1 Bear Lake	Rew
*Magnolia Warbler	"	3 F, 11	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	11	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
*Cape May Warbler	"	11 F, 17	1, 8 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	11 F	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler	"	11 F, 13	2, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	11	3 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	13-24	3-4 Spring Brook	Danner
*Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	"	2 F-31	1-15 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	3, 24	1, 2 Alfred	Klingensmith
*Cerulean Warbler	"	12 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	"	20	1 Town of Newstead	McKales
*Blackburnian Warbler	"	6 F, 11	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	7, 10	2, 1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Chestnut-s. Warbler	"	8 F	1 Town of Amity	Burtons
"	"	10-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Bay-br. Warbler	"	12 F	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
"	"	19	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Blackpoll Warbler	"	24 F	2 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	14 F	1 Mud Lake, Ont.	Hess
"	"	21	1 Fredonia	Goetz
Pine Warbler	"	5	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Rew
*Prairie Warbler	"	12 F-30	1-3 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	21	1 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	24, 26	1, 1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	(previously documented breeding areas)		
"	"	30	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick

*Palm Warbler	May	2 F	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	2 F	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	"	2 F	1 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
"	"	4	2 Tiffit Farm N. P.	Andrle, Byron
"	"	4-31	3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Ovenbird	"	2 F	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	2 F, 3	1, 1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	4-31	1-8 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Nor. Waterthrush	"	5	1 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo	Hess
La. Waterthrush	"	6, 15	1, 1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Kentucky Warbler	"	8	1 Mud Lake, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	9	1 Mud Lake, Ont.	Hess
Mourning Warbler	"	20	1 Tonawanda Indian R.	McKales
"	"	21	1 Fredonia	Goetz et al
*Common Yellowthroat	"	2 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
"	"	2 F-31	1-4 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Yellow-br. Chat	"	20	1 Tonawanda Indian R.	McKales
*Hooded Warbler	"	6 F	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	20	1 Alfred	Brooks
Wilson's Warbler	"	18	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
*Canada Warbler	"	13 F	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	23	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
*Amer. Redstart	"	4 F	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	5-31	1-3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
*Bobolink	"	1 F	12 Town of Dayton	Rew
"	"	2-31	1-11 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	2	1 Town of Amity	Burtons
Yellow-h. Blackbird	"	1	1 Fillmore	Yoerg, Esley, Perr
*Orchard Oriole	"	7 F	2 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	12	2 Silver Creek	Neveu
*Northern Oriole	"	2 F	1 Town of Pomfret	Rew
"	"	2 F, 13	1, 1 Belmont	Burtons
*Scarlet Tanager	"	4 F, 6	1, 1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	5	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Rew
Rose-br. Grosbeak	"	1-31	1-7 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-16 L	5-50 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	1-4	1-2 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	2	2 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	4	10 Town of Holland	Becker
*Indigo Bunting	"	2 F, 3	2, 1 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	6-31	1-7 Alfred	Brooks
House Finch	"	1-31	20 Belmont	Burtons
"	"	1-31	10-15 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
"	"	1-31	2 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
"	"	6, 8	2, 2 Elma	Forsberg
*Pine Siskin	"	5	1 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
Tree Sparrow	"	6 L	1 Belmont	Burtons
*Grasshopper Sparrow	"	14 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	31	1 Fredonia	Schaffner

*Henslow's Sparrow	May	2 F, 14	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	15	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*Lincoln's Sparrow	"	13 F, 18	6, 1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	15	1 Ridgeway, Ont.	Klepfer
*Clay-col. Sparrow	"	29	1 Town of Pomfret	Rew
"	"	31	1 Town of Pomfret	Schaffner
White-cr. Sparrow	"	1-6	1-2 Belmont	Burtons
White-thr. Sparrow	"	2	200 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.163

Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month. (including 12 on May Count). 85

Total for year243

ERRATUM

Prothonotary vol. 49:4, page 58, under Lesser Black-backed Gull
change

Mar.	10	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess
		to	
Mar.	3	1 Iroquois NWR	Hess

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of May 11, 1983

The 930th meeting of the Society was opened by President Wavel Barber, and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Notice was given of the upcoming Annual Banquet to be held Friday, October 14 at the Park Lane Manor House on Delaware Avenue at Gates Circle in Buffalo. Reservations should be sent in to Marc Chelemer as soon as possible.

Walt Klabunde and Fran Rew asked for participation in the USFWS Breeding Bird Survey runs and the B.O.S. "mini runs".

Program: "Sleuthing Secrets." Elizabeth (Betsy) Brooks and Vivian Pitzrick, who have discovered billions of nests in Allegany County, described their techniques and related a lot of information and anecdotes. Betsy started the program, first telling of the complicated point value system for found nests which provides the basis for the friendly competition between her and Vivian. She told of some of the hazards of nest hunting -- for example, a tendency to get over-involved and neglect other responsibilities, encounters with wasp and hornet nests, bee hives and ant hills, and attacks by Goshawks and biting flies. Some of their best work is done by accident,

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of May 11, 1983 cont.

such as the discovered nest of a Wood Pewee (sought for 6 years), noticed by chance one day in an overhead tree alongside Bob Andrie's parked car, about to depart. It's the best way for an amateur to contribute to ornithology. She cited breeding bird atlasing and contributions to the North American nest record card registry. Recommended tools include maps, clipboard, surveyor's tape (to be used with caution since, according to a study by Ken Balmas, crows can find nests marked by surveyor's tape), a mirror on a pole, and books. Both Harrison books are good, especially Colin Harrison's A Field Guide to Nests, Eggs and Nestlings of North American Birds, which has good photos of eggs.

An assortment of nests were brought for us to see. An Alder Flycatcher's nest often has a little scarf at back, while Willow Flycatcher's is much neater. A Least Flycatcher builds a compact little cup. Betsy once put out cotton near a Yellow Warbler; the resulting nest was all cottony. Two Prairie Warbler nests were compared, one in Spruce, one in Hawthorn (Crataegus). To find a specific nest, know 5 things: season, habitat, specific trees and shrubs preferred, type of nest, and height of nest. Also try to learn the special vocalizations made around a nest. Example: a Blue-winged Warbler utters a backwards type of song near its nest.

Precautions were outlined. Being an intruder in an already precarious situation, it's important not to keep the female off the nest for long, especially in cold weather. Use a different approach each time, walking past the nest, then doubling back ("T" approach). Allow a reasonable length of time between visits, and don't check nests when damp, since scent lingers longer in damp weather. Steve Eaton suggests using special field clothes, stored outside, and shoes may be sprayed with methyl salicylate. Heronries are especially vulnerable to disturbance; some have disappeared due to human visitation. And if you set up a bluebird trail, keep it properly maintained. This may include using rotenone to control blowfly larvae. The birds deserve the protection.

Vivian is a terrific photographer, and the remainder of the program was a presentation of her slides, focusing on habitats. The birds of Elm snags, mixed woods, conifer plantations, open fields, and water were described. Hints were given for finding nests and many interesting aspects of their breeding biology were presented.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Karen E. Renning

Report of May Bird Count

Date: May 15, 1983

Compiled by Marc Chelemer

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and the numbers of each. (H) indicates that total is the highest number counted in 10-year period; (L) indicates it is lowest count. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were received. An asterisk indicates first 1983 record for the B.O.S. territory.

Loons - Mergansers

Common Loon - 35	Blue-w. Teal - 34 (L)
Horned Grebe - 5	American Wigeon - 5
Pied-billed Grebe - 4 (L)	Wood Duck - 119
D.-crest. Cormorant - 11	Ring-necked Duck - 6
Gr. Blue Heron - 164	Lesser Scaup - 7
Green Heron - 76	Common Goldeneye - 3
Great Egret - 1 (L)	Bufflehead - 34
Amer. Bittern - 7	White-w. Scoter - 56 (H)
Tundra Swan - 1	Surf Scoter - 25 (25)
Canada Goose - 249	Ruddy Duck - 5
Mallard - 426	Hooded Merganser - 2
Black Duck - 5	Common Merganser - 12
Gadwall - 16	Red-br. Merganser - 73
Pintail - 8 (H)	

Vultures - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 65	Amer. Kestrel - 70
Sharp-sh. Hawk - 8	Ruffed Grouse - 62
Cooper's Hawk - 12	Ring-n. Pheasant - 55
Red-tailed Hawk - 129	Turkey - 23
Red-should. Hawk - 20	Virginia Rail - 5
Broad-wing. Hawk - 19	Sora - 4
Marsh Hawk - 10	Common Moorhen - 4 (L)
Osprey - 3	Amer. Coot - 4 (L)

Shorebirds

Semipalm. Plover - 6	Greater Yellowlegs - 5
Killdeer - 402	Lesser Yellowlegs - 4
Less. Golden Plover - 1	Pectoral Sandpiper - 3
Amer. Woodcock - 13	Least Sandpiper - 71 (H)
Common Snipe - 30	Dunlin - 6 (L)
Upland Sandpiper - 5	*Short-b. Dowitcher - 17 (F)
Spotted Sandpiper - 76 (L)	*Semipalm. Sandpiper - 5 F
Solitary Sandpiper - 25	*Ruddy Turnstone - 1 F (L)

***** (

Report of May Bird Count cont.

Jaegers - Flycatchers

Great Black-b. Gull - 23 (H)	Ruby-t. Hummingbird - 124
Herring Gull - 175	Belted Kingfisher - 97
Ring-b. Gull - 753	Common Flicker - 365
Bonaparte's Gull - 141	Pileated Woodpecker - 18
Common Tern - 187	Red-bellied Woodpecker - 25 (H)
Caspian Tern - 2	Red-headed Woodpecker - 31
Black Tern - 10 (L)	Yellow-b. Sapsucker - 21
Rock Dove - 1,187	Hairy Woodpecker - 106
Mourning Dove - 993	Downy Woodpecker - 293
*Yellow-b. Cuckoo - 1 F (L)	Gr.-crested Flycatcher - 143
*Black-b. Cuckoo - 5 F (L)	Eastern Phoebe - 136
Screech Owl - 4	*Willow Flycatcher - 4 F
Great Horned Owl - 18	*Alder Flycatcher - 2 F
Barred Owl - 5	Least Flycatcher - 113 (L)
*Common Nighthawk - 6 F	E. Wood Pewee - 44
Chimney Swift - 359	

Lark - Thrushes

Horned Lark (<u>E. a. praticola</u>) - 66	House Wren - 382
Tree Swallow - 3,263 (H)	Winter Wren - 6
Bank Swallow - 1,022	Carolina Wren - 1
Rough-w. Swallow - 512 (H)	Mockingbird - 4
Barn Swallow - 3,263 (H)	Gray Catbird - 914
Cliff Swallow - 214 (H)	Brown Thrasher - 97
Purple Martin - 500	Amer. Robin - 4,988
Blue Jay - 1,074	Wood Thrush - 369
Common Crow - 1,229	Hermit Thrush - 12
Bl.-cap. Chickadee - 1,094 (H)	Swainson's Thrush - 88
Tufted Titmouse - 31 (H)	*Gray-ch. Thrush - 35 (H)
White-br. Nuthatch - 195	Veery - 154
Red-br. Nuthatch - 23	Eastern Bluebird - 99
Brown Creeper - 23	

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher - 10	*Philadelphia Vireo - 7 F
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 9	Warbling Vireo - 65
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 47	Bl. & w. Warbler - 55 (H)
Water Pipit - 26	Golden-w. Warbler - 5
Cedar Waxwing - 162	Blue-w. Warbler - 123
Starling - 4,758	"Brewster's" Warbler - 1
<u>White-eyed Vireo</u> - 3 (H)	Tennessee Warbler - 167
Yellow-thr. Vireo - 7 (L)	Orange-cr. Warbler - 1
Solitary Vireo - 28	Nashville Warbler - 126 (H)
Red-eyed Vireo - 95 (L)	*Northern Parula - 9 F

Kinglets - Weaver Finches

(continued)

Yellow Warbler - 1,527	Palm Warbler - 11
Magnolia Warbler - 187	Ovenbird - 199
Cape May Warbler - 55	Nor. Waterthrush - 40 (H)
Bl.-thr. Bl. Warbler - 63	La. Waterthrush - 12 (H)
Yellow-r. Warbler - 403	*Mourning Warbler - 17 F
Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler - 228	Common Yellowthroat - 596
Cerulean Warbler - 5 (L)	*Yellow-br. Chat - 4 F
Blackburnian Warbler - 134	Hooded Warbler - 30
Chestnut-s. Warbler - 184	*Wilson's Warbler - 12 F
Bay-br. Warbler - 95	Canada Warbler - 26
Blackpoll Warbler - 14	Amer. Redstart - 283
Pine Warbler - 1 (H)	House Sparrow - 2,276
Prairie Warbler - 4	

Blackbirds - Finches

Bobolink - 1,301 (H)	House Finch - 662 (H)
E. Meadowlark - 239	Amer. Goldfinch - 3,119
W. Meadowlark - 18 (H)	Rufous-s. Towhee - 271
Red-w. Blackbird - 7,078 (L)	Savannah Sparrow - 168 (L)
Northern Oriole - 587	Grasshopper Sparrow - 6
Rusty Blackbird - 38	Henslow's Sparrow - 5
Common Grackle - 5,182	Vesper Sparrow - 18
Brown-h. Cowbird - 1,131	Dark-eyed Junco - 200 (H)
Scarlet Tanager - 157	Chipping Sparrow - 1,038
Cardinal - 690	Field Sparrow - 323
Rose-br. Grosbeak - 487	Wh.-cr. Sparrow - 326
Indigo Bunting - 155	Wh.-thr. Sparrow - 228
Evening Grosbeak - 11	Swamp Sparrow - 84
Purple Finch - 468 (H)	Song Sparrow - 1,606

Total Species:	194
Total Individuals:	74,958

Compiler's Comments:

The 1983 May Census was conducted Sunday, May 15. Two-hundred seventy observers tallied 74,958 individuals, with a total species count of 194. The weather conditions were rainy and cool throughout the entire B.O.S. area, which put a damper on both bird and birdwatcher activity. Several areas were not covered at all, or only received sporadic coverage, at best. If more people had been available, the count would have been much more successful. As it was, however, several excellent birds were seen: Great Egret, Tundra Swan, Golden Plover, three White-eyed Vireos, a Brewster's and an Orange-crowned Warbler and a Pine Warbler. Several species had very high 10-year counts: White-winged Scoter and Surf Scoter, Tree, Rough-winged, Cliff and Barn Swallow, Bobolink, and House Finch. The latter continued to have a marked increase in local population over the last available record

Report of May Bird Count cont.

Compiler's Comments: cont.

(200% over 1931). There were also several low species, as are detailed on the list. With spring migration continuing, amazingly enough, into late June, some of the low and high tallies make sense. The earliness of the migration brought many bird numbers down. Overall, however, community response was excellent! Dave Bigelow's column in The Buffalo News brought responses from about a half-dozen Buffalonians who were eager to participate and learn about the B.O.S. This was a very positive boost. I wish to thank everyone who participated in the count for braving the weather to help out; your efforts were well appreciated.

Sections and Observers: In the list that follows, compilers' names are underlined.
Total observers - 270.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | <u>Gary Novosel.</u> |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Bill Broderick</u> , Richard Morris. |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | No report available. |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock</u> , Marge Harwitz. |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick Christensen</u> , Peggy Christensen, John Morse,
Marion Smith. |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Ed Williams.</u> |
| 7. Lowbank, Ont. | Not covered. |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Marc Chelemer</u> , Marcy Foster. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Stanley King.</u> |
| 10. Akron, N.Y. | Not covered. |
| 11. Buffalo, N.Y. | Dave Fancher, Eleanor K. Hechwoth, Joe Macielag, Mike
McNally, Pat Reeves, Paula Swartz, Julia Wells. |
| 12. Lancaster, N.Y. | <u>Marie Wendling</u> , Anna Bauer, Katherine & Fred Bannon,
Ray Franz, Betty Frey, Cy Wolfling. |
| 13. Batavia, N.Y. | <u>Max & Jane Mason</u> , Elva Hawken, George Mahaney, Don
Thuray, David Whitcomb, Dave Thompson. |
| 14. Hamburg, N.Y. | Joseph D. Domenico, Miles Firey, Pat Firey, Barbara
Howard, Lynn Rochester, Robert D. & Lucile Leonard,
Barbara Wilson. |

Report of May Bird Count cont.

15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marion Bee, Hans Keorze, Art & Olga Rosche.
16. Angola, N.Y. Paul and Aleve Smith.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Wavel Barber, Maxine Barber, Dave Bigelow, Audrey Horbett, Rae Uhl, Barbara Walker.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Don & Jane Clark.
19. Fillmore, N.Y.. Alleghany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Margaret Kaufman, Jean Perry, Jane Moore, Ruth Richardson, Fay Clancy, Emmette Smith, Lois Harvey, Midge & H.K. Smith Emma Burr, Chita & Fred Winship, Mr. & Mrs. Harland Hale, Victor Carpenter, Gen & Les Fish, Alice Evans, Josephine Main, Andrew Mullen, Edna Marvin, Larry Wilson, Lydia Mills, Ruth Gilman, Helen Morse.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Allan Benton, Nancy Bowser, Lois Buck, Sylvia Clarke, Jeanine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula, Eloise Hibscher, Morgan Jones, Judy Kumler, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Dick Miga, Judy Mosher, Terry Mosher, Lucille Neveu, Bob Rand, Fran Rew, Arie Richardson, Bev Ruska, John Ruska, Marty Sauden, Paul Steese, Ruth Steese, Tom Welch, Louise Wood, Fred Woods, Jane Woods.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Paul Baglia Otto & Gretchen Carlson, Daniel Cordosi, Allen & Margaret Findlay, Jennie Freeman, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Dorothy Pihlblad, Katherin Ponton, Carol Roby
22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Cooney, Jr., Flora Elderkin, Elizabeth Pillsbury.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Paul Baglia Carole Carter, David Cooney, Jr., Daniel Cordosi, Flora Elderkin, David Gagne, Frank Gardner, Joane Nelson, Patricia Peterson, Jean Pigman, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Thomas A. Simmons, Thomas R. Simmons.
24. Allegany State Pk., NY John & Mary Forness, Michelle Bush, Tim Baird.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Dorothy Baker, Lucille Bordonaro, Charles Green, Margaret Green, Alene Johnson, Fred G. Meyer, Carl Seagren, James Van Scoy, Merideth Van Scoy, Regina Van Scoy.

Report of May Bird Count cont.

26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Mary Jordan, Bruce Smalley, Anne & Morris Scott, Sharon Baumgardner, Betty Compton, John Compton, Dustin Fleming, Sylvia Foster.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Hurlburt, Don & Emma King, Lillian & Stella Simons, Betty Hooker & family, Celestia K. Abbot, Frances DeGroff, Helen Apsey, Helen Link.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Lois Chapman, Russel Allen, Betsy Brooks, Lorry Chapman, Carla Coch, Larry & Harriet Deverell, Ann Eisenhardt, Pete & Terry Finlay, Lavinia Creighton, Barbara Keough, Clarence Klingensmith, Ruth Paige, Beverly Perr, Suzanne Wood.
- Dorothy Bayless, Leo Allsworth, Fred Bayless, Sonja, Lorna, Tara & Don Brink, Vivian & Wayne Brownell, Susan, Caroline & Jim Copenheaver, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Jay & Ben Hiller, Viola Ide, Marjorie & Ed Mason, Linn Philan, Violet Sharrett, Allen & Gladys Witter.
- Connor Stevens, Beatrice Common, Ken & Marian McClure, Mr. & Mrs. Alan Tuttle, William Walker, Harold Ward.
- Vivian Pitzrick, Mallory & Mary Adams, Doris & Lou Burton, Clifford Button, Roberta Clark, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick.
- Vera Brown, Evelyn Coats, Paul & Mary Alice Fuller, Robert & Claribel James, John Nickerson, Margaret Nickerson, Ernest & Lynn Rositzke, Burnadean Stein, Theodore & Lorena Vossler.
- Mrs. Erma Larson, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Babcock, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burdick, Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Coats, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cronauer, Mrs. Jack Frank, Mrs. Helen Graves, Mrs. Dolly Hawkins, Miss Mary McCarn, Sue Nydegger, Mrs. Evelyn Openhym, Ona Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. George Smith, Dr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Taggart.

MINUTES AND NOTES FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of May 25, 1983

The 931st meeting of the Buffalo Ornithological Society was opened at 8:10 p.m. by Wavel H. Barber, President. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Upcoming programs and field trips were announced by the respective chairpersons.

Bob Andrie gave an update of progress on the Atlas project and also reported that the Ontario Breeding Bird Survey had requested assistance from B.O.S. members to help work the Niagara Peninsula.

It was noted that the new telephone answering machine for Dial-A-Bird is in operation and that both the quality of the machine and Art Clark's presentation of the information are excellent.

It was also noted that John Morse of the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge is retiring and will be missed by the Society. Some form of recognition of John's dedication to Western New York birders was suggested.

Program: The speaker of the evening was Bradley A. Lown, whose talk was entitled "Recent Changes in the A.O.U. Checklist." The thirty-fourth Supplement to the American Ornithologist's Union Checklist of North American Birds was discussed, particularly with reference to changes in taxonomic order and explanations of the scientific names. In addition, Tom Harper reported on the April Bird Count.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

From Meeting Minutes, submitted by

Maxine W. Barber, for
Karen E. Renning, Secretary

IROQUOIS BIOLOGIST JOHN MORSE RETIRES

Birders and hunters will miss John Morse, who retired at the end of May, 1983, from his position as Senior Biologist at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. John, at 67, thinks its time to wind down his career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which included 3 years at Montezuma and 17 at Iroquois.

John, who has been a B.O.S. member for 16 years, will be remembered for the many times he led the spring and fall B.O.S. waterfowl trips through the Refuge. With his keys he could unlock the gates and treat us to a visit to the off-limit areas. When anyone with an interest in waterfowl came along, Morse was there to help and teach. He's seen the Wood Duck reach the top of successful breeders at Iroquois, with a 90% success rate at the 590 boxes he helped set up. He has seen the Mallard and Canada Goose boom. Morse kept track of the bird status and was the person who could tell you if the Barnacle Goose was at Cayuga or the Bluebird was nesting at the Maintenance building. And in the winter he was the perennial leader of the Oak Orchard Christmas bird count.

Morse's friend and co-worker Odmund Olsen will take over his duties, but no new biologist will be hired, in line with the Federal budget constraints.

Morse lived in the fine old farm house under the sugar maples just east of the Cayuga Pool overlook. As a sad note he says the house is scheduled to be torn down soon because of its large size and the cost of heating it.

He, with his wife and daughter Abigail, are moving to Sanbornton, New Hampshire. John and his wife are from that area and they have kept close ties with their friends. They will move into a new home they are building on a 20-acre plot. (The address is Perkins Road, Zip 03269.) They have four other children distributed accross the country as well as five grandchildren.

John admits he will miss the view of Cayuga Pool from his kitchen window. As he was packing he could look upon a special treat: the draining of the pool has brought in shorebirds rarely seen at the Refuge -- Avocet, Whimbrel, Glossy Ibis, and Wilson's Phalarope. This unusual condition has made this the local birding hot-spot for several weeks, but birders have been warned to stay at the observation sites and not trespass onto the mud flats.

John was born in Methven, Mass., and grew up in New Hampshire. He went to Cornell, getting a B.S. in Wildlife Management and Ornithology, and later a M.S. in Game Management from Oregon State. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, then worked at several wildlife jobs, and four years as a high school vocational agricultural teacher. He joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1957 as assistant manager at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge and later became manager there. In 1966 he transferred to the Iroquois refuge as senior biologist.

We believe that John Morse will be returning from time to time to visit his friends and the Refuge that is so much a part of him. Best wishes, John.

Bill Burch

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 14th: Summer Birding Experiences of Members. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come tell of summer experiences afield, both near and far. Photographic projection equipment is available, so bring slides, etc. Contact Marc Chelemer if special equipment is needed.

September 23th: Birders' Optical Equipment, presented by Robert Brock. Scopes, binoculars and cameras --how they work and how to choose the best equipment for your purposes will be the subject of this program.

October 14th: ANNUAL BANQUET -- Our Yearly Special Get-Together! At 8:00 p.m. on this Friday we will gather at the Park Lane Manor House (Delaware Avenue, Buffalo) for a great dinner, a short meeting, and a program. Dr. William Robinson from the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania will speak on Shorebirds. Come one, come all. Contact Marc Chelemer for reservations as soon as possible.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (385-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Marc Chelemer, Pat Cordaro (printing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE
BIRD CLUBS, INC.

36th ANNUAL MEETING

FREDONIA, NEW YORK

DATE: Friday, October 7 - Sunday, October 9, 1983
PLACE: Holiday Inn and State University College, Fredonia, New York

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1983 (All Friday activities at Holiday Inn.)

- 2:00 - 4:30 PM Council of Delegates
- 2:00 PM Field Trips for non-delegates: self-guided tours (maps provided) of local birding spots.
- 5:30 PM Social Hour and Cash Bar
- 6:30 PM Buffet Supper
- 8:00 - 10:00 PM WORKSHOPS
- The following three workshops will last one hour each, and will be given twice so that two out of three may be attended.
- (a) "Gull Identification" — Dr. Robert F. Andrie, Curator of Vertebrate Zoology, Buffalo Museum of Science.
 - (b) "Bird Song Analysis" — Dr. Charles R. Smith, Director of Public Education, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University.
 - (c) "Nest-Sleuthing Secrets" — Ace Nest Finders Mrs. Vivian Pitzrick, Belmont, N.Y., and Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks, Alfred Station, N.Y.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1983

- 6:30 - 8:30 AM Field Trip for delegates. Dunkirk Harbor, Canadaway Creek, area ponds and lakes for waterfowl, gulls.
- 7:00 AM Field Trip for non-delegates. Same as above plus Lake Erie State Park, Barcelona Harbor, Beaujean Swamp. Waterfowl and late passerine migrants.
- 9:00 - 11:00 AM Council of Delegates - Jewett Hall, State University College
- NOON Buffet Lunch at the Holiday Inn
- 1:30 - 4:30 PM PAPER SESSION - Jewett Hall, State University College

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1983 (Continued)

- 6:00 PM Social Hour and Cash Bar
- 7:00 PM BANQUET - Campus Center, State University College
- Your banquet menu features a choice of chicken *cordon bleu* or prime rib. The evening's program features Dr. James Parker, formerly of the State University College at Fredonia and now an ornithologist at the University of Maine at Farmington. A dynamic speaker who will come equipped with striking slides and videotapes, Dr. Parker will talk about the Mississippi Kite in the southern plains and his recent work in reintroducing the Swallow-tailed Kite to Kansas by cross-fostering this species with Mississippi Kites.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1983

- 7:00 AM Field Trip. For those traveling via New York State Thruway - Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge.
- 7:00 AM Field Trip. For those traveling via Route 17 or other southern routes - Chautauqua Lake, Burgeson Wildlife Sanctuary, Allegany State Park.

DIRECTIONS:

The Holiday Inn is located on Route 60, 10455 Bennett Road, Fredonia. For those driving on I-90, use Exit 59 and turn left. The Holiday Inn is on your right on Route 60 opposite the Exit.

For those driving on the Southern Tier Expressway (Route 17), exit at Jamestown and proceed north on Route 60 to the Holiday Inn. About a 30-minute drive.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Reservations for rooms at the Holiday Inn will be handled by the local committee. If you wish to reserve a room at another motel, or to camp in a local area, please write directly to the addresses listed below.

- Lake Erie State Park; Dunkirk, New York 14048
- Arkwright Hills Campsites; RFD; Fredonia, New York 14063
- Don's Motel; 363 Lake Shore Drive, West; Dunkirk, NY 14048; (716) 366-4646.
Rates: 2 Persons - 1 Bed, \$24 plus tax; \$4.00 for additional person.
- Dunkirk Motel; 310 Lake Shore Drive, West; Dunkirk, NY 14048; (716) 366-2200.
Rates: 2 Persons - 2 Beds, \$29 plus tax.
- Vineyard Quality Inn; Vineyard Drive; Dunkirk, NY 14048; (716) 366-4400.
Rates: 2 Persons - 2 Beds, \$33 plus tax.
- The White Inn; 52 East Main Street; Fredonia, NY 14063; (716) 672-2103.
Prices ranging from \$20 to \$40 plus tax.

All of these are within a five-mile radius of the Holiday Inn and College Campus. Due to another conference at the Holiday Inn this same weekend, we were assigned a limited supply of rooms at the Inn. Therefore, it would be advisable to make your room reservations as early as possible.

Reservation Form on Reverse Side.....

RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

<u>Item</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>No. of Persons</u>	<u>Total Enclosed</u>
Holiday Inn Room Reservations:			
1 Person	\$30.00	_____	_____
2 Persons	36.00	_____	_____
3 Persons	40.00	_____	_____
4 Persons	44.00	_____	_____

Check nights desired: _____ Friday, Oct. 7
_____ Saturday, Oct. 8

Registration Fee	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Registration Fee if prior to Sept. 9th	\$ 7.00	_____	_____
Friday Night Buffet Supper	\$ 8.50	_____	_____
Saturday Noon Buffet Lunch	\$ 5.75	_____	_____
Saturday Night Banquet:			
_____ Chicken <i>Cordon Bleu</i>	\$11.00	_____	_____
_____ Prime Rib	\$13.00	_____	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED			=====

Are you a delegate? _____ Club _____

If you have no one to share room expenses and want us to assign someone,
check here _____.

Are you a smoker? _____ Non-smoker? _____ Does not matter _____

Mail Reservation Form and check (made payable to Lake Erie Bird Club) to:

Joanne Goetz
6 Pine Drive
Fredonia, NY 14063
(716) 673-1627

Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope or post card, if you desire
confirmation of these reservations.

THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

JULY 1983

NUMBER 7

THE MONTH

After a rather chilly first nine days of below normal temperatures, June was a warm and sunny month portending the long hot summer to follow. The average temperature for June was 67.6° (F), 1.6° above the norm with the high thermometer reading of the month, 92° (F) recorded on the 22nd. Rainfall measured 2.99 inches, .27 inches above average, mostly in downpours on the 27th and 28th. There were no major weather disturbances. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

With the spring passage of migrants all but completed by the first week in June, most of the observations reported concerned breeding summer resident birds some extremely local in distribution and rare. An adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was seen at a small pond behind the residence of James Histi on Ryan Road in the Town of Shelby in Orleans County between June 2nd and June 6th. It was reported by George Skinner of Medina to Don Cook, outdoor columnist of the Medina Journal Register. Cook took an excellent photograph of the bird perched in a tree next to the pond which was published in the Journal Register on June 17th. On June 21st, Robert Andrie and members of the Tiffet Farm Nature Preserve committee saw a feral adult Mute Swan on a small body of water on the preserve known as Lake Kirsty. The bird apparently left the area soon thereafter as it could not be located again. The most exciting find of the month was Harold Axtell's brief glimpse of a Myiarchus Flycatcher which landed on a dead branch of a Norway Spruce at eye level, fifteen feet from the window of Dr. Axtell's residence on Rose Hill Road in the Town of Fort Erie where he was sitting at the time. Although he did not have his binoculars or other optical equipment at hand, he realized that this large flycatcher was not the familiar Great Crested Flycatcher, a common summer resident in suitable wooded habitat in the Town of Fort Erie, as it was smaller and noticeably paler in color with only a faint tinge of yellow on the belly. Unfortunately, before Axtell could get his binoculars for closer scrutiny, the bird took flight after only fifteen to twenty seconds of observation. As it flew, he noticed the orange-rufous color of

the tail and wings and although it could not be located again, he regards this bird as an Ash-throated Flycatcher, an extremely rare western vagrant with only three accepted records for the Province of Ontario.

Data continues to accumulate on the breeding status of the Acadian Flycatcher in our study area. It is hoped that the field work currently underway in conjunction with the N.Y. State Breeding Bird Atlas Project will show this bird to be a more common summer resident than hitherto believed. On June 22nd, Bob Andrie and Bob and Lucille Leonard observed one individual of this uncommon species on a wooded slope above a stream in the Hampton Brook woods in the Town of Hamburg. On the 29th, they returned to the site and again located the bird; a second Acadian Flycatcher was found in this woods at that time, some distance from the first. Both birds vocalized with the repeated "peet-suk" song, diagnostic for this species. Hampton Brook woods was the scene of the discovery of two and possibly three Acadian Flycatchers in June 1982. Terry Mosher of Fredonia also reported seeing two Acadian Flycatchers at Wheeler's Gulf in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County on June 21st. On June 20th, Elizabeth Brooks and Katherine Palmer were engaged in a census of a block for the N.Y. State Breeding Bird Atlas Project in the Town of Freedom in Cattaraugus County when they heard the "explosive song" of a flycatcher from a grove of mixed hardwood saplings on a hillside. The song, a "peet-suk", led Mrs. Brooks to the singer, a greenish-gray Empidonax flycatcher, which she identified as an Acadian, perched in a tree.

Elizabeth Brooks also reported a presumptive new breeding location for the White-throated Sparrow in Allegany County. On June 4th, she and Clarence Klingensmith observed a White-throat interacting with a pair of Song Sparrows on Mount Monroe Road in the Town of New Hudson.

Orchard Orioles continue to be seen on the Lake Erie Plain. Jeanne Flory saw two and perhaps three male Orchard Orioles at her residence on Berry Road in the Village of Fredonia in June. On the 8th, she observed an immature male with a prominent black 'bib' and a singing adult male in breeding plumage on both June 11th and 27th. Arthur Clark and Arthur Schaffner observed an immature male Orchard Oriole flying past the lookout at Pinehurst in the Town of Hamburg; the bird was in the company of an adult male Northern Oriole. Again, the diagnostic black, elongated and rounded throat patch of the Orchard Oriole was clearly seen and its greenish-yellow head and body were in sharp contrast to the bright orange and black pattern of the Northern Oriole flying a few feet ahead of it.

Other interesting records for June include a census of nesting gulls on the Stony Point diked disposal area in the South Harbor at Buffalo on June 2nd by Arthur Clark. Clark's study revealed over 6,655 Ring-billed Gulls nests at this site. Compared to a 1980 count of 847 nests of this species, this represents an increase of 700% in three years!

Among the many verbal communications received at the Museum of Science concerning bird movement in our study area in June were reports of a Cattle Egret on the Beaver Island State Park golf course on Grand Island on June 2nd, up to three Great Egrets at the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge all month and two Snowy Egrets at the Stony Point diked disposal site in Buffalo Harbor on June 22nd. Other verbal

reports tell of the reappearance of the male Eurasian Wigeon, first seen on the Buffalo Waterfront in late March, at the Stony Point disposal site as late as June 5th giving rise to speculation that it might have paired with a female American Wigeon. On June 10th, two male Ring-necked Ducks were also reported at this site on this extremely late date. Still other verbal reports include an adult male Yellow-throated Warbler seen in Allegany State Park by many observers during the annual Nature Pilgrimage Weekend on June 4th and 5th. The bird was said to be in full song and took pride of place in a bird list exceeding 100 species. Another report told of a singing male Kentucky Warbler in the Harry Dobbins State Forest on Karler Road in the Town of Little Valley in Cattaraugus County on June 12th and the reappearance of the male Lawrence's Warbler in the overgrown field behind St. Joseph's Cemetery on N.Y. Route #16 in the Town of Holland on the 18th. Finally, a White Ibis was reported to have been seen along Cattaraugus Creek on N.Y. Route #240 east of Springville for three weeks in June. Unfortunately, it could not be located by Bob Andrie and others who hurried to the scene when the bird's presence was made known to them.

It is unfortunate that so many interesting and perhaps significant bird observations such as those listed in the preceding paragraph were not documented by the observers by submitting written reports to the compiler or statisticians. In most cases, these sightings are by competent observers, some of whom are B.O.S. members, who spend many hours afield but only report their finds in casual conversations with their fellows. Mention of them in this column does not constitute publishing a valid record which can be cited by a student in the future. The Buffalo Ornithological Society has for its modest goal the most elementary scientific aspect of bird study, the accurate recording of those species of birds which occur within the boundaries of our study area. It allows the bird-watcher to make a contribution to scientific knowledge while enjoying a day afield. All that is asked of the observer is that check-lists and write-ups of descriptions of rare or unusual birds observed be submitted for the scrutiny of our statisticians to insure their inclusion in future publications.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

Compiler's Note

Effective this issue the sequence and English names of birds in Noteworthy Records, bird counts, and elsewhere in subsequent issues of The Prothonotary will be changed to follow the 6th edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds, to be published in 1933 (see The Prothonotary, Vol. 49, No. 5, p. 33, 1933). Please use these new English names in reporting your observations to the Society.

Interested members may obtain a copy of the 6th edition, when available, at The Cabinet, the sales shop at the Buffalo Museum of Science.

J.F.T.

JUNE NOTWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	June	7	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
D-cr. Cormorant	"	5	25 Mohawk Is., Ont.	Andrle, Gregory
Great Egret	"	18	2 Tonawanda WMA	Hess
Black-cr. Night-Heron		19,25	15,7 Lewiston	Niranians
*Yellow-cr. Night-Heron	"	2,3	1 Town of Shelby	Cook, Schrader
*Mute Swan	"	21	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
Lesser Scaup	"	9	1 Buffalo Harbor	Hess
Red-br. Merganser	"	5	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Sanderling	"	5 L	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Semi-palm. Sandpiper	"	5 L	11 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	7	18 Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Byron
Caspian Tern	"	5	10 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Long-eared Owl	"	12	1 Alfred	Brooks
Red-bellied Wdpr.	"	5	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
	"	18	1 Oak Orchard WMA	Hess
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	5 L	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	5 L	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Acadian Flycatcher	"	20	1 Town of Freedom	Brooks, Palmer
	"	21	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	22,29	1,2 Town of Hamburg	Andrle, Leonards
Cliff Swallow	"	11	12 Ceres	Brooks
	"	12	50 Alfred	Brooks
Brown Creeper	"	9	2 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	Hess
	"	29	2 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Winter Wren	"	18	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
	"	30	2 Town of Java	Rosche et al
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	4	1 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	15	6 Town of Ward	Brooks
	"	21	1 Town of West Almond	Brooks
			(all territorial males in prev. documented areas)	
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-30	9 Alfred (nests)	Brooks
	"	20	3 Town of Hanover	Mosher, Benton
Swainson's Thrush	"	5 L	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Magnolia Warbler	"	5 L	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory

Yellow-r. Warbler	June	<u>1-30</u>	21 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"		(all territorial males in prev. documented areas)	
	"	<u>11</u>	1 Town of Hamburg	Clark, Schaffner
Prairie Warbler	"	<u>1-30</u>	16 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"		(all territorial males in prev. documented areas)	
Bay-br. Warbler	"	5 L	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Blackpoll Warbler	"	6 L	1 Hamburg	Andrle
Cerulean Warbler	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
Louisiana Waterthrush	"	9	4 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	Hess
	"	21	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
Wilson's Warbler	"	5 L	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Gregory
Yellow-br. Chat	"	21, 24	1, 2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
Vesper Sparrow	"	7	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	21	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Schaffner
	"	28	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
White-thr. Sparrow	"	<u>4-30</u>	2 Town of Alfred	Brooks
	"	<u>4-30</u>	2 Town of West Almond	Brooks
	"	<u>4-30</u>	1 Town of Almond	Brooks
	"		(all previously documented breeding areas)	
Orchard Oriole	"	11	1 Town of Hamburg	Clark, Schaffner
House Finch	"	6	10 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	3	2 Town of Elma	Forsberg

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	248
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this issue.	<u>2</u>
Total for year	250

Hypothetical Records

<u>Ash-thr. Flycatcher</u>	June	6	1 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
----------------------------	------	---	-----------------------	--------

Statisticians' Note

The Statisticians have decided to initiate the formal use of two additional categories in making determinations on bird verification reports submitted to the Buffalo Ornithological Society. These are "Hypothetical" and "Probable Escape or Release." A hypothetical record is a report of a bird which has a high probability of being valid but which lacks sufficient evidence or substantiation to allow a certain judgment to be made that it is acceptable. A probable escape or release is a report of a bird for which the preponderant weight of evidence or the greatest possibility points toward it being an escape from captivity or an intentional release. Use of these two categories will permit greater flexibility in judging reports. They are employed in many annotated checklists as well as in verification systems.

Robert F. Andrle
Frances M. Rew
Statisticians

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

The B.O.S. March Winter Bird Survey 1983

Two Down! Three To Go!

The 1983 B.O.S. March Winter Bird Survey, the second year of a 5-year study, covered 15 of the 23 sections of the B.O.S. territory in Region 1. Eighty-five observers, including 35 members and 50 friends of the B.O.S. reported. The five birds chosen by the Research Committee for the month-long study were the Tufted Titmouse, the Carolina Wren, the Mockingbird, the Cardinal and the House Finch. The form for reporting was redesigned for this year and included a map of the study area. This report form and map were included in the February 1983 issue of The Prothonotary, with a plea for participation and a return date for reports of April 10th.

The map on the next page shows the B.O.S. study area. Within the sections are shown the feeder count (the number with an F after it), the count for birds found in other places (without the F), and the numbers of observers reporting from that area (in black square). A sample reading, say for section 5, shows that 8 Cardinals were found at feeders, 13 found elsewhere, and 6 House Finches were at feeders and 6 observers reported from that section.

The total reported number of Titmice was 34 (up from last year); Carolina Wrens 6 (same as last year); 9 Mockingbirds (up); 394 Cardinals (up); and 674 House Finches (up). There was a combined total of 1,117 birds, up from the 1982 total of 393.

January of 1983 was unseasonably mild and cloudy with only one sustained cold spell between the 16th and the 21st. Total snowfall for the month was 9 inches and average temperature 27°F. February continued the mild open winter, snow depth 5 inches, average temperature 29.6°F.

March was a mixed bag of weather. From the 1st to 19th the temperature was above normal by an average of 12°F with a record high of 76°F on the seventh. A cold front on the 20th brought in a period of freezing rain, sleet and snow and a record low of 5°F on the 25th with below zero readings in the Southern Tier. The month ended on a seasonal note. Average temperature for the month was 36.7°F, and snowfall measurement 6.9 inches, mostly from the storms of the 21st and 22nd. It was not the greatest time for birding!

The Titmouse was found in 7 areas, the Carolina Wren in 2 areas, the Mockingbird in 4 areas, the Cardinal in 12 areas, and the House Finch in 7 areas. None of the 5 birds was found in all areas. No area had all 5 birds. There are 14 sections from which we have no data...our efforts will have to be increased in 1984.

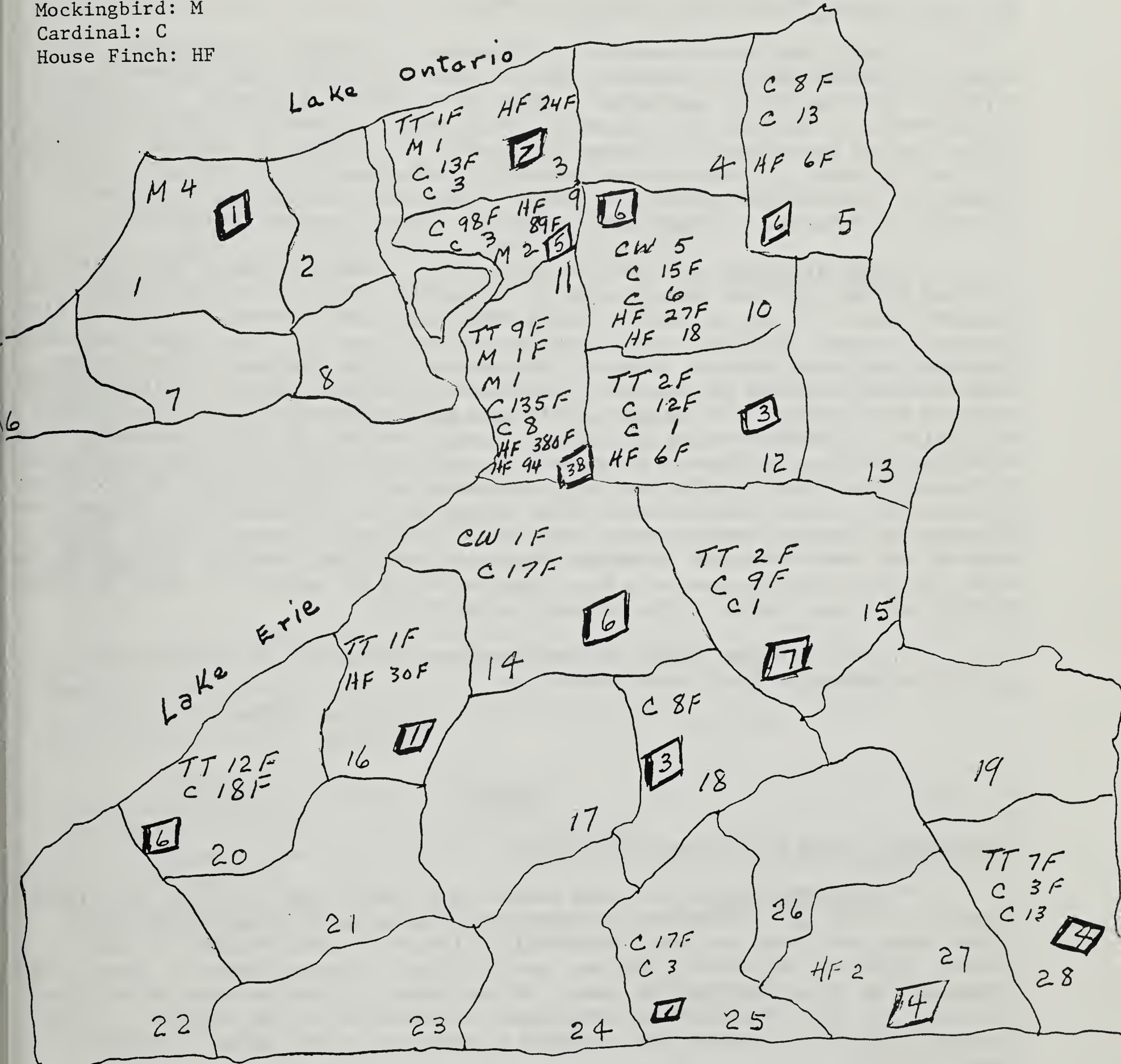
Fifty personal notes were sent out to specific members and friends. 13 responded. None of our Canadian members assisted us.

RESULTS: 2ND YEAR OF 5-YEAR SURVEY

1983 MARCH WINTER BIRD SURVEY

Tufted Titmouse: TT
 Carolina Wren: CW
 Mockingbird: M
 Cardinal: C
 House Finch: HF

Numbers and letter F are
 count for FEEDERS
 Numbers without F were
 observed ELSEWHERE



B. O. S. STUDY AREA

-- 15 sections reported

-- 85 observers, including 37 members,
 48 friends of B.O.S.

-- number within black square is number of
 observers in section

	TOTALS:	
	Feeders	Elsewhere
TT	34	-
CW	1	5
M	1	8
C	343	51
HF	560	114
Total:	939	178

The B.O.S. March Winter Bird Survey 1933 cont.

Many thanks to our members: M/M Barber, K. Brandes, W. Broderick, M/I Clark, M/I Christensen, M. Clemesha, Mrs. D. Cole, Dr/I Cooper, M/M Forsberg, M. Forness, M/M R. Hull, M/I Klabunde, J. Morse, M/I McKale, M/I Rosche, K. Renning, M/M Schwartz, M. Saville, Dr. Swienciki, M/M G. Smith, A. Smith, M. Wendling, J. Wright and to our friends: D. Barber, J. Bentley, S. Clarke, S. Castren, J. Coetz, J. Flory, R. Hein, L. Halderman, D. Hubbard, E. Johnston, M/I O. Hull, D. Kew, M/M Mosher, J. Meierhoffer, B. Metz, O. Olsen, V. Pitzrick, K. Renning, B. Reinhart, M. Smith, M. Schultz, T. Walker and L. Windsor. Plus 24 unnamed assistants.

Other sightings included the following: A female Cooper's Hawk wintered on Grand Island, and Mrs. Cole thought it responsible for death of her Titmice. At Buckhorn Island Mr. Kew reported a Tundra Swan along with Ring-necked Ducks on 3/29. Northern Harrier, Killdeer, Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk seen in Elma. First year that Forsbergs had House Finches. Juncos, Goldfinches, Purple Finches in South Wales. White-throated Sparrows in Hamburg. Pine Siskin and Purple Finches, White-throated Sparrows in Fredonia. Golden-crowned Kinglets and Red-breasted Nuthatches in Town of Marilla. In February a Shrike killed a female Cardinal in North Tonawanda. Bluebirds were seen in Basom. 43 species from 1/1-3/31 found in Marion Smith's yard in Lyndonville. The R. Hulls had Hairy Woodpecker and White-breasted Nuthatches in Eggertsville. Marie Wendling saw a Great Horned Owl in Williamsville. Juncos, Tree Sparrows and Evening Grosbeaks were being found in traps at Beaver Meadow. Many reported the usual Cowbirds, Redwings, Grackles, Starlings, Downies, Chickadees, and Jays, and Helen Renning gave us a very fine recording of fantastic numbers of Purple Finches and House Finches -- the highest counts of all.

A job well done folks, and you have our gratitude! We hope you will respond as enthusiastically next year.

Margaret Wright
Compiler

NOTES

Conservation Items of Interest to Birders

"Operation Eagle," a 2-year program designed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to break up a lucrative operation specializing in killing eagles and 18 other endangered birds has been successful in issuing search warrants in South Dakota, Oklahoma, California, Montana, and Florida. Interior Secretary James Watt announced the crackdown early in June. He said about 300 eagles were being killed this year and sold to dealers and collectors at about \$1,000 per carcass. People in South Dakota and Montana were arrested in this bird black market. (Buffalo News 6/16/32).

"Mono Lake Activists Win One" by a dramatic new precedent in water law set earlier this year, in the continuing battle between use of the water for Los Angeles and water for the birds that use Mono Lake for nesting or migratory stopover. The California Supreme Court agreed that the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Conservation Items of Interest to Birders cont.

must give "full and continuing consideration to the effects their diversions are having on Mono Lake --- a fair balance between commercial values and interesteds protected by the public trust must be sought." Mono Lake, near Yosemite National Park in California attracts a smorgasbord of birds:

800,000 Hared Grebes - migratory stopover

100,000 Wilson's Phalaropes - summer here on way to wintering grounds
in South America

50,000 California Gulls - nest at Mono Lake

Sandpipers, Plovers, Waterfowl, Avocets - 115 species in all make use of
this eerie and unique place!

Since 1941 the City of Los Angeles has been diverting water from the streams that feed the lake. Now L.A. gets 17% of its water supply from tributaries of this lake. In 1974 studies and projects were begun but in 1974 the water level had fallen so far that land bridges had emerged and in 1979 coyotes crossed the bridges to the nesting areas and routed 34,000 Gull chicks, killing them, and in 1981 the year's hatch of gulls starved to death because shrimp numbers were down due to increased salinity in the lake. Litigation has continued since 1979 by many conservation groups and 4 individuals. California Auduboners, while happy about the court ruling, is working on more fund-raising since Mono Lake still is not safe. The question is how much protection will be given to the lake by the "public trust" ruling.

If you would like to contribute to this effort to save part of the waters for the birds of Mono Lake, contributions can be sent (tax deductible) to Mono Lake Fund, 1414 Fair Oaks Avenue, Suite 6, South Pasadena, CA 91030. ALSO - letters to your representative urging him to support Mono Lake National Monument H.R. 1341 would help to protect this unusual area. (Audubon Action, June 1983).

Water and Wetlands - Tougher Laws? In the current reauthorization debate on the Clean Water Act, 3 issues are important right now --- control of toxins, non-point source pollution, and protection of wetlands. America has already lost about half the wetlands that early pioneers saw and another 1,000 acres are being drained and filled every day. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act sets up regulations to reinforce wetlands safeguards. Let your elected representatives know how you feel about water pollution issues. (Audubon Action, June 1983).

Olga Rosche

R.D. #1

S. Wales, NY 14139

Editor's Note

There sure are a lot of "Notes" in this issue. I guess I'll follow suit...

Help! The Prothonotary needs contributions of articles, notes, anecdotes, bulletins, jokes, poems, puzzles, queries -- anything utilizing the written word, relating to birds. A "bare bones" issue of this newsletter, with just the regular features, is nice but of somewhat limited interest and appeal. But it doesn't take very much effort to greatly broaden and improve every issue. For a variety of reasons, continued or increased membership levels and interest in the Society may be significantly dependent upon the production of the best possible newsletter. That little "something extra" could be your write-up of a recent birding safari, a report of a book you have read, a description of some interesting interactions you have seen at your feeder, poetry (your own or that of someone else), a portion of a verification report, or anything else which is the sort of thing you would like to see here. It doesn't have to be perfect and polished. I will gladly help shape up something for publication. The effort will be worth it, since all our members and subscribers will enjoy reading interesting features.

Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Bob Klips
Editor

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

September 28th: Birders Optical Equipment, presented by Robert Brock. Scopes, binoculars and cameras -- how they work and how to choose the best equipment for your purposes will be the subject of this program.

October 12th: NO MEETING -- Banquet this week!

October 14th: ANNUAL BANQUET -- Our Yearly Special Get-Together! At 8:00 p.m. on this Friday we will gather at the Park Lane Manor House (Delaware Avenue, Buffalo) for a great dinner, a short meeting, and election of officers. The program will be presented by Dr. William Robinson from the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, who will speak on Shorebirds. Come one, come all. Contact Marc Chelemer for reservations as soon as possible.

- October 26th: 4th Year Atlas Summary, Bob Andrie, Region 1 Coordinator for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project, will summarize the first four years of the survey. He will update us on the project, and show us how we can bring the Region 1 Atlas to a successful conclusion.
- November 9th: Curlew, Pigeon and Parakeet, presented by Bob Klips. The natural history of some extinct birds which flew the skies of the Niagara Frontier Region.
- December 14th: Introduction to Other Periodicals, Marie Wendling, B.O.S.' Librarian, will talk about 'other' birding type periodicals that are available in the libraries or directly through memberships or by subscription.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- September 25th: A trip to Taquanyah Conservation Area, Dekawsville, Ontario. Bill Bogacki, leader (674-5781). Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:00 a.m.
- October 16th: October Bird Count. Compiler: Barbara Walker (649-1242).
- October 23rd: Iroquois Wildlife Refuge, Oak Orchard and Tonawanda Wildlife Management Areas. Dick Christensen, leader (632-7762). 8:00 a.m. Transitown Plaza or 9:00 a.m. at Tonawanda Wildlife Pool Overlook (Route 77 west of Meadville Road).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 23rd & 24th: The Buffalo Ornithological Society will be participating in the 10th Annual Good Earth Festival presented by the Buffalo Museum of Science.
- October 7th, 8th & 9th: The 36th Annual meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc. will be sponsored by the Lake Erie Bird Club (Joanne Goetz, 6 Pine Drive, Fredonia, NY 14063 (716) 673-1627). Activities will be centered on the Holiday Inn and State University Campus, Fredonia, New York.

October 18th: A new nature study group, the Buffalo Botanical Society, will hold a meeting for organization and membership on Tuesday, October 18, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Museum of Science, Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo, New York. All persons who have an interest in botany, and particularly field botany, are invited to attend. Dr. Richard H. Zander, botanist at the Museum, will present a program: Edible and Poisonous Plants of Western New York.

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

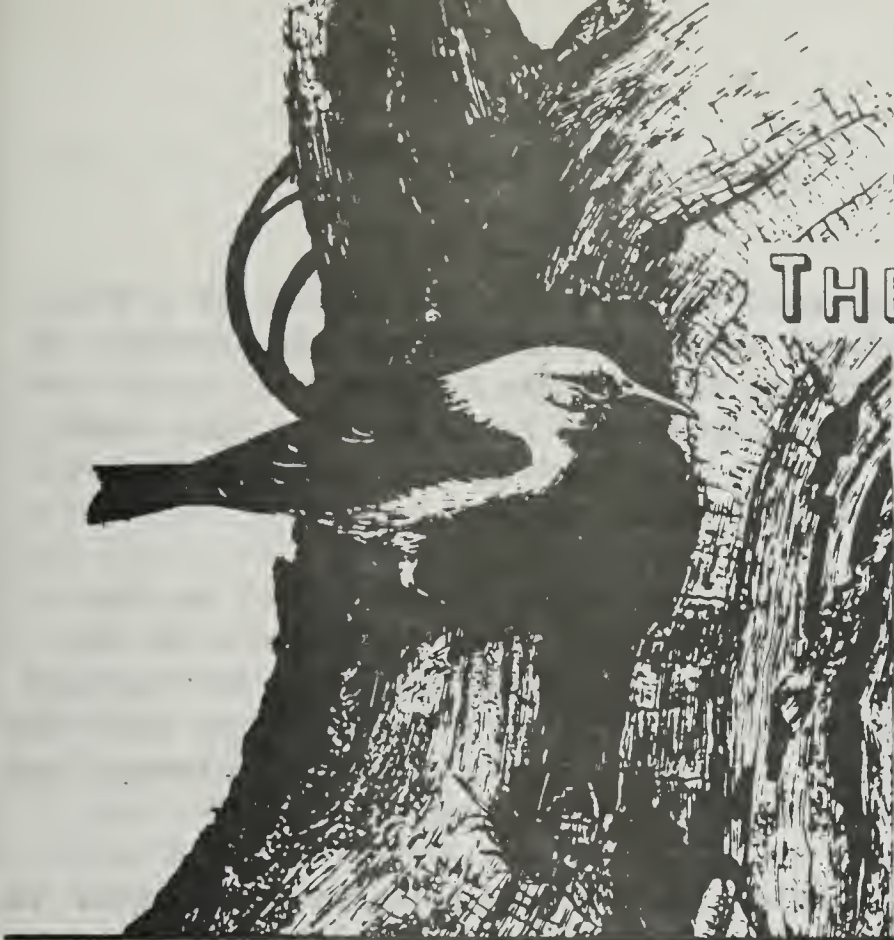
BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney
Harnish (mailing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

VOLUME 49

AUGUST 1983

OCT 26 1983

NUMBER 8

THE MONTH

July was sunny, hot and dry; it was one of the hottest Julys in the annals of the local weather bureau. The average temperature for the month was 74.2° (F), 3.5° above normal for the period. For a record 21 days between July 11th and 31st, temperatures exceeded 80° (F) and on two days, the 17th and 18th, reached 90° . Rainfall measured only 2.01 inches for the month, mostly in thunderstorms on July 29th, 30th and 31st when a total of 1.74 inches was recorded. The thunderstorms during the morning of July 29th were accompanied by high winds. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The first migrant shorebirds made their appearance on the north shore of Lake Erie on July 5th when Ward Klepfer observed two Lesser Yellowlegs at Waverly Beach and an additional 11 birds of this species further down the shore in the Town of Fort Erie. On July 8th, nine Lesser Yellowlegs and six Least Sandpipers were seen at Erie Beach, Ontario with six Short-billed Dowitchers and more Least Sandpipers augmenting that number on the 11th. For the first time in several years, the interest in the autumn passage of shorebirds has shifted back to the north shore of Lake Erie where both variety and numbers of birds has exceeded those found at the Cannery Ponds at St. David's Ontario. Walter Klabunde writes that a visit to the Cannery Ponds on July 25th revealed that only the southwest pond was filled and the water level was very low although 1,000 Semipalmated Sandpipers and 150 Lesser Yellowlegs were gathered there. A second pond was filled with cattails and a third was completely dry save for a few puddles with no shorebirds present. On a B.O.S. field trip to Rock Point Provincial Park on July 24th led by Harold Axtell, a Western Sandpiper was seen. The bird remained at that location for several days thereafter in the company of a very early Dunlin which presumably was a non-breeding bird. The Western was the only rare shorebird reported in our area in July.

Among the interesting records received in July was the report of a King Rail from the marsh at Mud Lake in the Town of Arkwright in Chautauqua County. On July 2nd, Terry Mosher and Art Schaffner were at that location when they heard the call of a bird from that marsh which Schaffner identified as that of a King Rail, a rare summer resident in our study area. Mosher declined to confirm the identification as he had never heard the call of this species before.

On July 30th, Terry Mosher observed a second year Iceland Gull on the outer breakwall of the Dunkirk Harbor, 250 yards from the main pier where he was standing. The bird, which was in the company of Greater Black-backed, Herring and Ring-billed Gulls. The gull was in the all white plumage of a second year bird and noticeably smaller than its nearest neighbor, a Herring Gull in juvenal plumage but 'more robust' than the many Ring-billed Gulls also gathered there.

Two new presumptive breeding localities for the Golden-crowned Kinglet in Cattaraugus County were reported by Alice and Bill McKale in July. On July 7th, they observed six adult kinglets of both sexes in a mature spruce plantation in the Cattaraugus County Forest Preserve on the Ashford Hollow Road in the Town of Ashford. On this date they also observed "two or three" Golden-crowned Kinglets in a spruce grove in a privately owned wooded area on Schumacher Road, also in the Town of Ashford. The bright yellow crowns with black stripes were clearly seen on all of the birds and one male kinglet was in full song.

The Yellow-breasted Chat is a seldom observed, local summer resident in Western New York and therefore an observation by Terry Mosher of Fredonia in July is of interest. On July 8th, Mosher and Robert Sundell found three singing males on Vine Road in the Town of Pomfret in Chautauqua County. On July 2nd, Terry Mosher and Arthur Schaffner heard and saw an adult male Clay-colored Sparrow in heavy shrubbery in an overgrown field adjoining the runway of the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport on the Van Buren Road in the Town of Pomfret. Mosher and Schaffner had gone to this area in the hope of seeing this bird which had been heard singing there during the late spring and early summer of 1982. (See The Prothonotary, vol. 48:7, pg. 71.) As they approached the location, they heard the 'low, flat, unmusical buzz' of this sparrow. As they moved through the underbrush hoping for a glimpse of the bird, which continued to sing in spite of their presence, Mosher saw a light colored sparrow perched on the crown of a small pine, its head held back in full song. Unfortunately, the sparrow remained in view only a few seconds and could not be located again; not enough fieldmarks were seen to base identification on morphological characters. However, because of the unique song of this species, there was no doubt as to its identification as an adult male Clay-colored Sparrow.

Vivian Pitzrick reports a Brown Thrasher nest with three well-feathered nestlings which she found in Amity Township in Allegany County on July 29th, apparently a record late date for young in the nest for this species in New York State.

Vivian Pitzrick also reported a putative new nesting location for the Yellow-rumped Warbler in Allegany County. On July 2nd, she heard the song of a Yellow-rumped Warbler in a spruce plantation on the Irish Settlement Road in the Town of Ward. She located a small, compact nest next to the trunk of a small Norway Spruce. It contained a single egg but Mrs. Pitzrick was unable to get a satisfactor

look at the adult bird flitting through the foilage nearby. Six days later, the egg had been punctured, apparently by a House Wren and the adult warbler could not be located. On July 25th, in this same plantation, Mrs. Pitzrick was intrigued by the sight of two birds, about the size of Red-winged Blackbirds, which passed overhead in a looping flight giving a loud 'chirrup' call at intervals. Although she was unable to determine color or wing pattern, Mrs. Pitzrick is reasonably certain that the birds were Evening Grosbeaks. Elizabeth Brooks reported thirteen territorial male Prairie Warblers as well as three active nests of this species in previously documented breeding areas in Allegany County during July. She also discovered six Golden-crowned Kinglets and 15 territorial male Yellow-rumped Warblers as well as five active nests of the latter species in previously documented locations. A family of four young out-of-the-nest Golden-crowned Kinglets was found by Mrs. Brooks in a conifer plantation next to Foster Lake in the Town of Alfred, a new breeding location for this species in Allegany County.

Other reports of interest received at the Museum of Science in July include that of a late adult Broad-winged Hawk migrating northward over Buffalo on July 2nd. An estimated 40 Black-crowned Night Herons were reported from Times Beach in Buffalo on July 23rd.

Finally, the writer must mention two belated reports of interest concerning observations in our study area in June which have been received in conjunction with the field work for the Bird Atlas project of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs. On June 27th, Dr. Stephen Eaton, professor of biology at St. Bonaventure University and one of this state's most eminent ornithologists, was ascending a tributary of Phillip's Brook off of the Bone Run Road on the west side of the Allegheny Reservoir in the Town of South Valley in Cattaraugus County. The purpose of Dr. Eaton's ascent was an attempt to get a glimpse of a singing Acadian Flycatcher in a heavy stand of hemlocks there. To his delight, he discovered an active breeding colony of Swainson's Thrushes, identifying approximately 25 singing males. The Swainson's Thrush is a local summer resident in small numbers in hemlock groves at higher elevations in the unglaciated portions of southern Cattaraugus County. This colony is the largest single population discovered to date. On June 16th, Dr. Richard Clark of York College of York, PA, who was also engaged in field work for the Bird Atlas project, discovered a Saw-whet Owl feeding young in a wooded area next to Science Lake in Allegany State Park.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

JULY NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-crest. Cormorant	July	30	6 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Least Bittern	"	20	1 Tonawanda WMA	Potter
Great Egret	"	20	1 Tonawanda WMA	Potter
Common Goldeneye	"	27	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle, Thill
Common Merganser	"	23	5 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Northern Harrier	"	26	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	26	1 Long Beach, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
Cooper's Hawk	"	1-31	1-2 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	1	1 Town of Mansfield	Chapple
	"	2	1 Town of Villanova	Mosher, Schaffner
Semipalm. Plover	"	27 F	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
	"	30	3 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Greater Yellowlegs	"	10 F	1 Crescent Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	5 F	2 Waverly Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	5 F	11 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	25	150 St. David's, Ont.	Klabundes
Solitary Sandpiper	"	27 F	1 Fredonia	Mosher
	"	30	1 Clarence	McKales
Ruddy Turnstone	"	30 F	15 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Semipalm. Sandpiper	"	13 F	7 Waverly Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	25	1000 St. David's, Ont.	Klabundes
	"	30	400 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
*Western Sandpiper	"	24, 25	1, 1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell et al (BOS)
Least Sandpiper	"	10 F, 13	25, 12 Waverly Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	25	25 St. David's, Ont.	Klabundes
*W.-rump. Sandpiper	"	31	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*Baird's Sandpiper	"	24	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
	"	25	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	25 F	18 St. David's, Ont.	Klabundes
	"	30	4 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Dunlin	"	24	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell, McKales et al
	"	30	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
*Stilt Sandpiper	"	25 F	6 St. David's, Ont.	Klabundes
	"	30	13 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Short-b. Dowitcher	"	10 F	1 Waverly Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	30	6 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith

Volume 49, No. 8 "July Noteworthy Records" cont.

Wilson's Phalarope	July	26,27	1,1 St. David's, Ont.	Axtell et al
"	"	27	1 St. David's, Ont.	D'Anna, Potter
Little Gull	"	31 F	1 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Andrle et al
Iceland Gull	"	<u>30</u>	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Gr. Black-b. Gull	"	<u>30</u>	12 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
Caspian Tern	"	22 F,23	3,3 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
"	"	23	1 Long Beach, Ont.	Thill
"	"	30	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan, Smith
"	"	30	4 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Black Tern	"	4,6	50,75 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
"	"	22	1 Tonawanda WMA	Moshers
Long-eared Owl	"	22	1 Lewiston	D'Anna et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	1	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
"	"	1-31	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	2	1 Town of Villenova	Mosher, Schaffner
"	"	6	14 Scio	Pitzrick
"	"	7	2 Town of Ashford	McKales
"	"	8	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	17,22	1,1 Lewiston	D'Anna et al
"	"	21	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
Carolina Wren	"	10	2 Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Winter Wren	"	2	2 Town of Villenova	Mosher, Schaffner
"	"	4,8	2,1 Town of Java	Rosche
"	"	9	1 Town of Villenova	Mosher, Bentons
*Sedge Wren	"	24	2 Port Colborne, Ont.	Axtell et al (BOS)
"	"	26	1 Port Colborne, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
Marsh Wren	"	2	3 Town of Arkwright	Mosher, Schaffner
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	<u>7</u>	2 Town of Ashford	McKales
"	"	<u>7</u>	6 Town of Ashford	McKales
			(two different sites)	
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	<u>1</u>	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
			(one adult at nest)	
"	"	<u>2</u>	3 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
			(previously documented breeding area)	
Prairie Warbler	"	<u>1</u>	1 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
"	"	<u>"4,10,14,17"</u>	2,1,1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
			(previously documented breeding area)	
Yellow-br. Chat	"	7	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	8	3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher, Sundell
Clay-col. Sparrow	"	2	1 Dunkirk	Mosher, Schaffner
White-thr. Sparrow	"	<u>1</u>	3 Town of Ward	Pitzrick
"	"	<u>2,10</u>	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
			(previously documented breeding area)	

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	250
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month.	<u>5</u>
Total for year	255

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Spring Hawk Migration Season at Grimsby, Ontario

Beamer Conservation Area

by: Walter Klabunde

Officially the spring hawk migration season is from 1 March through 31 May, for 92 days. Actually coverage began two days earlier but eleven days were either rained or snowed out leaving a net of 83 days of coverage. During this time the lookouts were manned 554 hours when 13,572 hawks were recorded. This averages 163 hawks/day or 24 hawks/hour. Actually the median was only 43 hawks/day and 4/hour. This shows that hawk watching is either feast or famine.

Sixty-five (65) percent of the total or 8,853 hawks were seen in ten days and six of these days were in the eight day period 22-29 April. During the previous week persistent snow storms south of Lake Erie kept the Broadwings bottled up. We realized the bottleneck was broken when after noon on the 28 April 680 Broadwings came by, by 1:00 p.m., and 1,094 more followed by 2:00 p.m. The days total Broadwing count was 1,916. Unfortunately, the flight was somewhat south of Beamer lookout. With no observers available to man Grimsby Air Park (about two miles south), a significant portion of the hawks were left uncounted. Fortunately, the following day, 29 April, the flight pattern was nearly all overhead when 1,849 hawks were observed, including four peak flights. Most outstanding of these were the eagles - 4 Golden and 2 Bald. The record shows:

GE (sa) - 12:25; GE (a) - 12:35; GE (im) - 12:41

BE (a) - 1:40; Be (im) - 1:56

GE (a) - 2:28 (all times E.S.T.)

The other peak flights consisted of 20 Northern Harriers and 19 Cooper's Hawks. Together with 1,246 Broadwings it made this 29 April a day long to be remembered. Unfortunately, only three hawkwatchers enjoyed most of the day's activities.

Turkey Vultures continued to show their expansion northward. Their total, 889, is 213 above their previous high. Even so, this figure is probably low because several were seen migrating locally in the middle of June.

As anticipated, Goshawks with a total of 72 probably reached the peak of their cycle this year. Other species which came through in record numbers were Red-tailed Hawks (3,143) and Golden Eagles (8). On the other end, the numbers of Sharp-shinned Hawks and American Kestrels were the lowest in four years. Also, no Peregrine Falcons were seen. All other species were in normal range, as was the total number of hawks.

Beamer had many more visitors this season following the publicity received in both press and television on several occasions.

In the accompanying tables the species key is as follows:

TV - Turkey Vulture	GE - Golden Eagle
GO - Goshawk	BE - Bald Eagle
SS - Sharp-shinned Hawk	NH - Northern Harrier
CH - Cooper's Hawk	OS - Osprey
RT - Red-tailed Hawk	ML - Merlin
RS - Red-shouldered Hawk	AK - American Kestrel
BW - Broad-winged Hawk	UH - Unidentified Hawk
RL - Rough-legged Hawk	

Breakdown of 465 Unidentified Hawks = 47 Unid. Accipiters + 250 Unid. Buteos +
9 Unid. Falcons + 159 Hawks

4923 Creek Rd., Lewiston, NY 14092

February & March 1983 Hawk Watch Summary
for Beamer Parking Area

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UH	Total
2/27	3.8					2											2
28	6.5					46			1								47
Feb. Total	10.3					48			1								49
3/01	7.0					43											43
02	7.0		1			23									1		24
03	6.3				1	87			2						1	1	91
04	7.0					40	1									1	42
05	8.4					40			1							2	43
06	7.0				1	80	2		2		2						87
07	5.5															1	1
08	7.0				1	30	5					1				1	37
09	3.0						Fog & Rain										
10	0.0						Rain										
11	5.5					21			1							3	24
12	8.0		1			167	2		1								172
13	7.5	1				132	4		4			1				2	143
14	7.0		1			7	5		1						3	7	23
15	6.8					17	3										20
16	7.0		1	4	5	289	136		1						3	1	444
17	7.5	1	2	8	4	245	91		1			1			1	3	351
18	6.3		4	1	5	52	37				1				1	1	100
19	0.0						Rain										
20	4.0		1			1	2										3
21	0.0						Rain & Snow										
22	0.0						Snow										
23	6.0					1	1										2
24	6.0																
25	7.0			1		17	1		1			1				2	22
26	6.8	2	1			45	19		1							1	67
27	0.0						Rain										
28	0.0						Rain & Fog										
29	6.5	3	1			47	4		4			3			1	1	56
30	7.0	6	6		12	173	92		2	1		2				7	300
31	7.2	3		5	4	113	52									6	173
March Total	164.3	16	19	19	33	1670	457		22	1	3	9			11	41	2300

April 1983 Hawk Watch Summary for
Beamer Parking Area, Grimsby Air Park (GA) & Grimsby Plains (GP)

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UH	Total
4/01	8.0	7	1	10	3	65	23		1			2			1	14	10
02	9.0	3	9	6	5	43	29		2			3			2		10
03	4.5			4	1	2	3				1	1			2	2	2
04	7.5	6	1	9	7	9	4					5			8	3	5
05	7.8	32	2	11	5	33	4			1		3			1	12	10
06	7.7	28	5	34	3	109	52		1						7	8	20
07	2.2			5	1							1				2	
08	7.7	130	3	15	3	84	8					4			1	22	20
GA "	1.0	7							1			2					
09	8.0	8	2	4	1	38	2		1			2	1		2	1	10
10	6.5	64	2	32	1	28	1				1	6			2	4	10
GP "	1.5	212		34	1	15	1										20
11	3.8	11		32	2	15						1				4	10
12	8.3	94	2	16	2	132	1		5			4			1	10	20
13	7.6	101	4	103	7	164	11	2	5			5			4	42	40
14	4.4		1	17	2	8	1					3			2		10
15	7.2	1		4		8	1						1				10
16	8.0	7	5	30		29	1		3			1			5	1	10
17	7.0	50	8	44	6	184	5	12	4			2				53	30
18	7.4	1															
19	5.0	9		9	2	14			1			1					10
20	5.0			2	1	3			1				1				10
21	6.0			7	1	4	1					1					10
22	8.4	14	3	333	11	104		86	2			8	2	1	4	123	60
23	10.0	25	1	223	5	71	4	163	1	1		6	1		4	33	50
24	7.6	8		25		6						3	2				10
25	7.4											1	1				10
26	9.4	10		240		30	5	64	1	1		10			4	5	30
27	8.3	4		434	6	14		140	1			1	1		1	16	60
28	8.0	4		199	2	10		1916	1			4		1	3	3	210
29	8.7	14	3	449	19	77	5	1249	3	4	2	20	1		2		180
30	1.0			7													
April																	
Total	210.0	850	52	2326	97	1299	162	3632	34	7	4	99	11	2	56	360	899

May 1983 Hawk Watch Summary
for Beamer Parking Area & Quarry (Q)

Date	Hrs.	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UH	Total
5/01	0.0																0
02	6.3	1		108	1	3	1	13				4					13
03	5.9			5													5
04	7.4	1		125	2	5		5					2				14
05	7.3			146	2	3	1	21					2				17
06	8.3		1	623	11	23	3	83				4	3		2	17	77
Q "	3.8	5		192	3	49		304								41	59
07	9.0	6		155	4	3		11	1						1	5	18
08	1.0																
09	7.3			12		3											1
10	7.5			7		2		1									1
11	8.0			59		10		16				2					8
12	7.4	1		23	1							1	1				2
13	7.6			15		1		6				1	1				2
14	6.5			14	1												1
15	0.0																0
16	6.4			1		2											3
17	6.5			1		12		3									1
18	6.2			1		1		1									3
19	4.2																0
20	7.3			1		1						2					3
21	0.0																0
22	0.0																0
23	6.3					1									1		1
24	5.5	1				2											3
25	0.0																0
26	6.1	6															6
27	7.3																0
28	0.0																0
29	5.7				1	4		1									6
30	7.0							2									2
31	6.8					1		3								1	4
May																	
Total	168.6	23	1	1488	26	126	5	470	1			14	9		4	64	223

First, Peak & Last Dates of Each Species

<u>Species</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Last</u>
TV	3/13 - 1	4/10 - 276	5/26 - 6
GO	3/02 - 1	4/02 - 9	5/06 - 1
SS	3/16 - 4	5/06 - 815	5/20 - 1
CH	3/03 - 1	4/29 - 19	5/29 - 1
RT	2/27 - 2	3/16 - 289	5/31 - 1
RS	3/04 - 1	3/16 - 136	5/06 - 1
BW	4/13 - 2	4/28 - 1916	5/31 - 3
RL	2/28 - 1	4/12, 13 - 5	5/07 - 1
GE	3/30 - 1	4/29 - 4	4/29 - 4
BE	3/06 - 2	3/6, 4/29 - 2	4/29 - 2
NH	3/08 - 1	4/29 - 20	5/20 - 2
OS	4/09 - 1	5/06 - 3	5/13 - 1
ML	4/22 - 1	4/22, 28 - 1	4/28 - 1
AK	3/02 - 1	4/04 - 8	5/23 - 1

Summary by Months and for Spring

	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UH	Total
February					48			1								4
March	16	19	19	33	1670	457		22	1	3	9			11	41	230
April	850	52	2326	97	1299	162	3632	34	7	4	99	11	2	56	360	899
May	23	1	1488	26	126	5	470	1			14	9		4	64	223
	889	72	3833	156	3143	624	4102	58	8	7	122	20	2	71	465	1357

Top Ten Dates

Date	TV	GO	SS	CH	RT	RS	BW	RL	GE	BE	NH	OS	ML	AK	UH	Total
4/28	4		199	2	10		1916	1			4		1	3	3	214
4/29	14	3	499	19	77	5	1246	3	4	2	20	1		2	1	134
5/06	5	1	815	14	72	3	387				4	3		2	58	136
4/22	14	3	333	11	104		86	2			8	2	1	4	123	69
4/27	4		434	6	14		140	1			1	1		1	16	61
4/23	25	1	223	5	71	4	163	1	1		6	1		4	33	53
4/13	101	4	103	7	164	11	2	5			5			4	42	44
3/16		1	4	5	289	136		1						3	1	44
4/10	276	2	54	2	43	1				1	6			2	4	39
4/26	10		240		30	5	64	1	1		10			4	5	37

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- October 26th: 4th Year Atlas Summary, Bob Andrie, Region 1 Coordinator for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project, will summarize the first four years of the survey. He will update us on the project, and show us how we can bring the Region 1 Atlas to a successful conclusion.
- November 9th: Curlew, Pigeon and Parakeet, presented by Bob Klips. The natural history of some extinct birds which flew the skies of the Niagara Frontier Region.
- December 14th: Introduction to Other Periodicals, Marie Wendling, B.O.S.' Librarian, will talk about 'other' birding type periodicals that are available in the libraries or directly through memberships or by subscription.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- November 6th: A trip to Chautauqua Lake. Fran Rew, leader (649-4192). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland, Hamburg or at 8:30 a.m. at Dunkirk Harbor.
- November 20th: Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Esther Becker, B.O.S. (537-2592) and Gordon Meade, G.O.S. (248-2032). Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.
- December 18th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Bogacki (674-5781).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

NOTES

Color-marked Common Terns: Request for Information

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Region, is continuing its program of color-marking Common Terns at two colonies in the lower Great Lakes to determine their post-breeding dispersal, migration routes and winter range.

In 1981 adults were marked with orange wing-tags and chicks with pink tags. Tags were put on both wings of all birds. All tags had combinations of letters and numbers (the two tags on any bird each had the same combination). In addition, all birds received a metal legband on one leg and a plastic legband (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) on the other leg. In 1982 many of the adult tagged birds returned to their colonies still carrying their tags. The tagged birds appeared fit and nested normally. Most tags were still clearly legible and showed little wear. In 1982 bright blue wing tags (with black lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and black tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks just prior to fledging. In 1983 many terns tagged in 1981 and 1982 were back at their colonies. In that year red wing tags (with yellow lettering) were put on adult Common Terns and green tags (with yellow lettering) on chicks.

When you observe a tagged tern would you please report the date, location, color of the tag, and, if possible, the number/letter combination to:

Banding Office
Canadian Wildlife Service
Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E7

All reports will be acknowledged.

Nature Books for Sale, Cheap!

Dick Cristensen, 9 Brookside Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221, (716) 632-7762, finds book bargains and passes them along to others. Available are the following:

Face of North America (Farb) \$2.00.
Birds of Britain and Europe (Peterson, Mountfort & Hollon) \$7.50
The Life of Birds (Drost) \$30.00 (2 vols.)
A Species of Eternity (Krastner) \$4.00 (paperback)
The Panda's Thumb (Gould) \$2.00 (paperback)
Plant Speciation (Grant) \$7.00
A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi (Pettingill, Jr.)
\$3.00 (paperback)

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

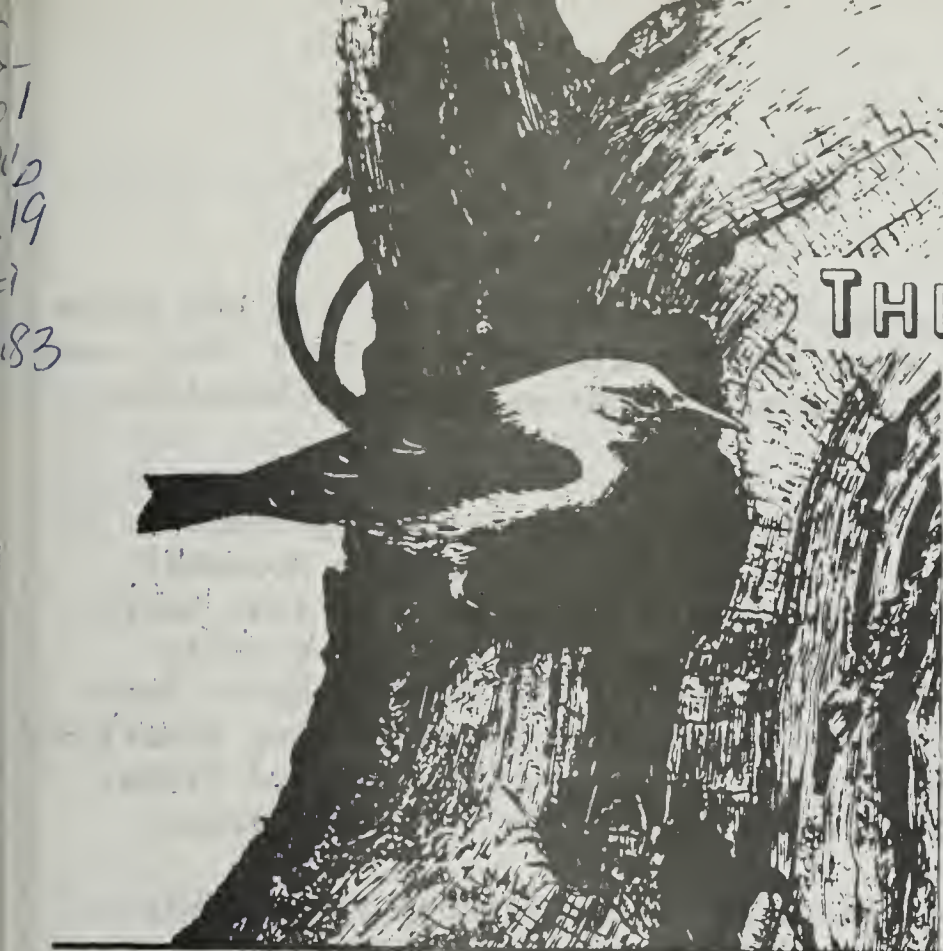
Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney Harnish (mailing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

NOV - 9 1983

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

SEPTEMBER 1983

NUMBER 9

THE MONTH

The weather in August continued hot and sunny as the endless summer of '83 rolled on. Save for a brief respite on the 11th when the temperature at Buffalo did not exceed 63° (F) in an all day downpour, weather conditions were generally sunny, hot and humid until the end of the period. Violent thunderstorms and high winds during the evening of the 27th marked the only weather disturbance of consequence during the month in the Buffalo area but failed to usher in a cold front and cooler weather. The average temperature for the month was 71.2° (F), 2.3° above average; precipitation measured 3.51 inches, -0.65 inches below the norm while 63% of possible sunshine was recorded. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Although no cold fronts occurred to precipitate a dramatic influx of passerine migrants, by mid-August the first migrating warblers made their appearance. On a B.O.S. field trip to Rock Point Provincial Park and Morgan's Point on the Canadian shore of Lake Erie on August 21st, participants tallied three species of vireos and 14 species of warblers: they included Philadelphia Vireo and Tennessee, Magnolia, Cape May, Bay-breasted and Blackpoll Warblers. By month's end, migrants were reported in good numbers from all parts of our study area. The shorebird migration along the north shore of Lake Erie continued good during August but it was not remarkable for rare or unusual species. Oddly enough, the only reports of rare shorebirds this month came as the result of a boat trip around Buffalo Harbor on the 27th. On that date, Arthur Clark and Arthur Schaffner discovered a flock of shorebirds on Donnelly's Pier in the north harbor off of LaSalle Park which included an uncommon Baird's Sandpiper, a rare Buff-breasted Sandpiper and a Piping Plover. The latter species has been reduced in status from a locally common summer resident on the sandy beaches of the north shore of Lake Erie to a rare and irregular passage migrant. Older members of the Society can recall field trips in summer to the sandy beaches near Sherkston Quarry, before that area was ruined by commercial exploitation.

in the hope of catching a glimpse of this plover and its downy young. It has since been extirpated as a breeding species all along the Ontario shore of Lake Erie, west to Long Point by destruction of its habitat as recreational use of the shoreline increased.

On August 28th, Bob Andrie and his party picked out six Buff-breasted Sandpipers among the plovers at the Niagara Merion Sod Farm in Moulton Township, Ontario. The small rounded heads, slim necks and rather short legs of this buffy-brown sandpiper identified them as did their peculiar habit of darting rapidly about in search of insect prey. Prior to the discovery of the Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Andrie and his party were at Rock Point Provincial Park where they identified a large Podiceps swimming offshore in Lake Erie as an immature Red-necked Grebe, very rarely seen in summer and the first record for August for our study area.

On August 2nd, Willie D'Anna and Elizabeth Potter discovered an adult Black-headed Gull in winter plumage in a group of Bonaparte's Gulls resting in the shallows at the shoreline in Rock Point Provincial Park. D'Anna's attention was attracted to this gull as it was slightly larger than the Bonaparte's Gulls associated with it and he was able to discern the red-orange bill with dark tip and the black coloration of the underside of the primaries when it spread its wings. It was a life bird for both observers. But one Black-headed Gull doth not a summer make and on August 19th Willie D'Anna was again looking over a flock of several hundred Bonaparte's Gulls sitting on the rocks at Goat Island in the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls, N.Y. To his surprise, he picked out a second Black-headed Gull, this one with the dark brown mantle of a breeding adult; again, the diagnostic deep red-colored bill and dark gray color of the underside of the primaries were seen. Almost as an anti-climax, D'Anna also saw a Willet on Goat Island on this memorable day.

Other interesting records in August include a sub-adult Mute Swan seen by Terry Mosher and Allan Lyford in Dunkirk Harbor on the 12th. Harold Axtell writes of the "almost spectacular" increase in the numbers of the Eastern Kingbird in the Niagara Peninsula during the last several years after many years of gradual decline. On August 28th, he counted no fewer than 26 kingbirds during a visit to the Niagara Merion Sod Farm in Moulton Township. Vivian Pitzrick reports that her census of breeding Eastern Bluebirds on 'The Bluebird Trail' at Amity Lake in Allegany County resulted in finding 17 pairs which fledged a total of 87 young birds during the 1983 nesting season.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, NY 14217

AUGUST NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Red-necked Grebe	Aug.	<u>28</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	<u>13</u>	27 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Mute Swan	"	<u>12</u>	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Lyford
Green-w. Teal	"	<u>21</u>	3 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Northern Pintail	"	<u>2</u>	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Andrle, Foster
	"	<u>18</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
No. Shoveler	"	<u>28</u>	3 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Scaup (Sp?)	"	<u>2</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Common Goldeneye	"	<u>1-31</u>	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
	"	<u>2</u>	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
	"	<u>7</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
	"	<u>13</u>	2 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
	"	<u>30</u>	2 Morgan's Point, Ont.	Axtell
Ruddy Duck	"	<u>28</u>	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Turkey Vulture	"	<u>5</u>	51 Iroquois NWR	McKales
Cooper's Hawk	"	<u>8,30</u>	1,1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	<u>9</u>	3 Town of Amherst	McKales
	"	<u>16</u>	1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	<u>26</u>	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	<u>27</u>	1 Spring Brook	Danner
Black-bell. Plover	"	<u>18 F</u>	23 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Axtell
	"	<u>18 F</u>	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
*L. Golden Plover	"	<u>23 F</u>	2 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Rosches
Red Knot	"	<u>28</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Solitary Sandpiper	"	<u>12,18</u>	1,1 Dunkirk	Mosher
	"	<u>28</u>	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
*Willet	"	<u>19</u>	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
	"	<u>27,29</u>	1,1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Upland Sandpiper	"	<u>28</u>	2 Town of Clarence	McKales
Stilt Sandpiper	"	<u>7</u>	3 St. David's, Ont.	Andrle et al
*Buff-br. Sandpiper	"	<u>28 F</u>	6 Moulton Twp., Ont.	Andrle et al
Common Snipe	"	<u>7</u>	2 Fort Erie, Ont.	Webster
	"	<u>10</u>	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Wilson's Phalarope	"	<u>2,3</u>	3,3 St. David's, Ont.	Axtell
	"	<u>7</u>	1 St. David's, Ont.	Andrle et al

*C. Bl.-headed Gull	Aug.	2	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
"	"	19	1	Niagara Falls	D'Anna
Bonaparte's Gull	"	13	500	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Duncan
Caspian Tern	"	12,27	10,10	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
*Forster's Tern	"	14 F	1	Point Gratiot	Mosher
Black Tern	"	5	3	Iroquois NWR	McKales, Crone
Common Nighthawk	"	22 F	3	Silver Creek	Mosher, Benton
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	14	1	Grand Island	D'Anna et al
Olive-s. Flycatcher	"	28 F	1	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Axtell
Yellow-b. Flycatcher	"	23 F	1	Morgan's Point, Ont.	Axtell
"	"	24	1	Erie Beach, Ont.	Andrie, Byron
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-31	1-2	Spring Brook	Danner
Red-br. Nuthatch	"	5	1	Iroquois NWR	McKales
"	"	31	3	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Carolina Wren	"	24	1	Allegany State Pk.	D'Anna, Potter
Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	"	31	1	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Eastern Bluebird	"	25	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Swainson's Thrush	"	5 F-9	1	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
"	"	10-31	2	Rose Hill Rd., Ont.	Axtell
Northern Mockingbird	"	26	1	Fredonia	Mosher
Cape May Warbler	"	29 F	1	Fredonia	Mosher
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	28	3	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Bl.-&-w. Warbler	"	8 F, 15	1, 1	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
"	"	25, 27	1, 1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Wilson's Warbler	"	31 F	2	Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	256
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month.	<u>5</u>
Total for year	261

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Canadian Lake Erie Shorebird Trip, August 21, 1983

The warm sunny day encouraged 18 birders to take part in this popular trip. The usual route was followed, which is to procede directly to Rockhouse Point Provincial Park (1 hour or 35 miles from Buffalo) and then work back. Three hours were spent at the Park, including the lunch break. Conversation was antimated during the sandwich session and we heard several good anecdotes, but none matched Marie Wendling's bear story.

On the beach at the Point were Spotted, Least, Semi-palmated and Stilt Sandpipers. Also two Knots, seven Ruddy Turnstones, Lesser Yellowlegs, Sanderlings, Semipalmated Plover and two Black-bellied Plovers. Several Caspian Terns and a dozen Cormorants flew by just off shore. A Common Goldeneye, female or immature, swam near shore and a Northern Harrier climbed high overhead on a thermal.

Canadian Lake Erie Shorebird Trip cont.

At the Merion sod farms (roughly 2 miles north of Low Banks), Art Schaffner counted 102 Black-bellied Plovers. Harold Axtell found us a Buff-breasted Sandpiper through the heat waves 500 yards away. The buff breast wasn't evident but he pointed out the features of small head, slim neck and the pot belly shape. I had regarded it as an attractive bird. On the wires were a row of Swallows: Tree, Barn, Cliff and the noticeably smaller Bank Swallow.

The next and final stop was at Morgan's Point. The watchdog at the house near the parking spot must be aging because he slept instead of growling. A high water level discouraged the shorebirds but the woods were productive, with a Red-headed Woodpecker family, Northern Oriole, Wood Pewee, Warbling Vireo, and Warblers including Nashville, Yellow, Canada and Redstart.

It was a good day with 53 (or more) species tallied. But next time, fellows, lets car pool from Low Banks into the Park and save a few of the \$2.50 admissions. That would buy a heap of ice cream cones.

Trip Leader Bill Burch

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey - 1983

by: Walter Klabunde

Since 1967 members and associates of B.O.S. have cooperated each June in the United States Fish & Wildlife Service Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey of North America program. The details of procedure and route description are presented in Prothonotary Vol. 33 No. 10 pages 123-7 (1967) and Vol. 34 No. 10 page 112 (1968). Inasmuch as Route 001 in Dunnville, Ont. appears to be lost to B.O.S., this program is now limited to the 18 routes in Western New York. Previous data has been revised by eliminating the records of Route 001, and beginning with this report all comparisons will be made with the revised data. We were extremely fortunate in enlisting 9 new observers and/or assistants which provided coverage on all 18 routes. The following listing shows the cooperators for each of the routes; the new cooperators are underlined.

<u>#</u>	<u>Route Name</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Assistant</u>
045	Phillip's Creek	Doris Burton	<u>Mary Jordan</u>
046	Swain	Elizabeth W. Brooks	<u>Clarence Klingensmith</u>
052	Mt. Morris	Douglas Bassett	-
053	Hamburg	<u>William Bogacki</u>	<u>Esther Becker</u>
054	Seneca	Marie Wendling	<u>Clare Henderson</u>
055	Gainesville	Mary Batcheller	-
056	Cattaraugus	<u>Marc Chelemer</u>	-
057	East Java	David Junkin	Marty Junkin

USFWS Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey - 1983 cont.

<u>#</u>	<u>Route Name</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Assistant</u>
058	Castile	Douglas Bassett	-
059	Randolph	Stephen W. Eaton	Ellen E. Eaton
060	Centerville	Wavel Barber	Maxine Barber
061	Sheridan	Frances M. Rew	Lois Buck
062	Cherry Hill	Robert Sundell	David Gagne
063	Nashville	Robert M. Wagner	Edith N. Wagner
064	St. Johnsburg	Jack Wright	Margaret Wright
065	E. Youngstown	Harriette Klabunde	Walter Klabunde
066	Byron	Elva Hawken	David Keller
111	S. Vandalia	Regina Van Scoy	James S. Van Scoy

Table 1 shows the number of each species recorded and the percentage of routes in which each species was recorded. Also, the status of each species compared with the previous 15 years is noted. A total of 117 species were recorded of which two, Swainson's Thrush and Philadelphia Vireo, were new to the list. The latter is considered a late migrant, thus reducing the total to 116 net. Table 2 shows the 41 species recorded at least once in the past but not this year. The status in most cases is N (normal) while five are discounted as late migrants. Three are rated below normal and only one, Cliff Swallow, is missing for the second time in 16 years. Thus a total of 158 species were recorded in the 16 years of which 6 were discounted as late migrants leaving a net 152 species.

It is noted that 29 species achieved an H+ rating while 12 equalled the previous high. When comparing this with 6 new lows plus 6 tied with the previous lows, it shows there are 3.5 "H" ratings for each "L" rating. Also, the total number recorded (116) ties the previous highs in 1967 and 1975. While the median number of species recorded/route has slowly dropped from a high of 60 in 1967 to a low of 52 in 1980, this year it has shown a marked gain, back to a median of 59.

The following ten species showed the most significant increases over previous highs:

House Finch	819%	Northern Cardinal	57%
Northern Harrier	250%	Dark-eyed Junco	56%
Mourning Warbler	87%	Tree Swallow	52%
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	86%	Great Bl. Heron	50%
Blue-w. Warbler	80%	Downy Woodpecker	45%

In spite of 6 new lows, only three are possibly significant decreases:

E. Meadowlark	-18% - down to 1/3 of peak in 1969;
Blackburnian Warbler	-50% - down to 1/7 of peak in 1973;
Savannah Sparrow	-7% - down to 52% of peak in 1972.

USFWS Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey - 1983 cont.

TABLE 1

1983 Summary of USFWS Cooperative
Breeding Bird Survey of 18 WNY Routes

Species	% Status Total Rtes.			Species	% Status Total Rtes.		
	Status	Total	Rtes.		Status	Total	Rtes.
Gr. Blue Heron	H+	33	83	Alder Flycatcher	N+	16	39
Gr.-backed Heron	N-	18	33	Least Flycatcher	N+	64	94
Canada Goose	N+	1	6	E. Wood Pewee	N+	56	39
Mallard	N=	39	61	Horned Lark	L=	21	22
Wood Duck	N	3	17	Tree Swallow	H+	73	56
Turkey Vulture	N+	3	11	Bank Swallow	N+	122	28
Sharp-sh. Hawk	H=	2	11	No. Rough-w. Swallow	N	9	22
Cooper's Hawk	H=	2	11	Barn Swallow	H+	586	100
Red-tailed Hawk	N+	16	44	Purple Martin	N+	38	28
Red-should. Hawk	N	4	22	Blue-Jay	H+	172	94
Northern Harrier	H+	7	28	American Crow	N+	731	100
American Kestrel	N+	28	72	Black-c. Chickadee	H+	127	94
Ruffed Grouse	H+	2	6	White-br. Nuthatch	N+	17	44
Northern Bobwhite	H	1	6	Red-br. Nuthatch	H+	5	11
Ring-n. Pheasant	N-	137	67	Brown Creeper	N+	2	6
Killdeer	N+	183	100	House Wren	N+	197	94
Common Snipe	N+	7	17	Winter Wren	H=	1	6
Upland Sandpiper	L	1	6	No. Mockingbird	H=	3	17
Spotted Sandpiper	N-	4	22	Gray Catbird	H	150	100
Ring-b. Gull	N+	164	11	Brown Thrasher	N-	15	50
Rock Dove	N+	398	100	American Robin	N	1391	100
Mourning Dove	H+	510	100	Wood Thrush	N	153	89
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	H=	7	33	Hermit Thrush	L=	1	6
Black-b. Cuckoo	N	15	39	Swainson's Thrush	H+	1	6
Eastern Screech-Owl	N+	1	6	Veery	N	47	67
Great Horned Owl	N+	3	17	Eastern Bluebird	N	9	28
Barred Owl	H	2	11	Golden-cr. Kinglet	H=	4	6
Chimney Swift	N+	60	72	Cedar Waxwing	N	126	78
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	H+	13	44	European Starling	N-	1879	100
Belted Kingfisher	N-	12	39	Yellow-thr. Vireo	H	7	22
Northern Flicker	L=	42	83	Solitary Vireo	H=	4	6
Pileated Woodpecker	H+	6	17	Red-eyed Vireo	N-	148	94
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	H+	8	22	Philadelphia Vireo	H+*	1	6
Red-headed Wdpkr.	L-	1	6	Warbling Vireo	H+	72	72
Downy Woodpecker	H+	55	83	Blue-w. Warbler	H+	37	61
Eastern Kingbird	H+	104	100	Nashville Warbler	N	2	11
Gr. Cr. Flycatcher	H	49	89	Yellow Warbler	H+	461	100
Eastern Phoebe	N-	31	83	Magnolia Warbler	H+	15	17
Acadian Flycatcher	H=	1	6	Bl.-thr. Gr. Warbler	H=	29	39
Willow Flycatcher	H	80	83	Blackburnian Warbler	L-	2	6

USFWS Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey - 1983 cont.

TABLE 1
(Continued)

<u>Species</u>	<u>%</u>			<u>Species</u>	<u>%</u>		
	<u>Status</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rtes.</u>		<u>Status</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rtes.</u>
Chestnut-s. Warbler	L=	15	39	Scarlet Tanager	N-	25	56
Prairie Warbler	H=	1	6	Northern Cardinal	H+	201	100
Ovenbird	H+	48	61	Rose-br. Grosbeak	H+	66	89
La. Waterthrush	H+	2	11	Indigo Bunting	H+	217	89
Mourning Warbler	H+	28	44	Purple Finch	L=	14	33
Common Yellowthroat	H+	276	94	House Finch	H+	90	50
Yellow-br. Chat	H=	1	6	American Goldfinch	N	417	100
Hooded Warbler	N+	4	17	Rufous-s. Towhee	N-	64	61
Canada Warbler	N	4	11	Savannah Sparrow	L-	318	94
Amer. Redstart	N-	19	22	Grasshopper Sparrow	N	7	28
House Sparrow	N+	1305	100	Henslow's Sparrow	N-	5	17
Bobolink	H	439	94	Vesper Sparrow	N	17	28
E. Meadowlark	L-	208	100	Dark-eyed Junco	H+	28	28
Red-w. Blackbird	L-	2419	100	Chipping Sparrow	H+	389	100
Northern Oriole	N-	107	94	Field Sparrow	N	186	89
Common Grackle	N+	1745	100	Wh.-thr. Sparrow	N+	1	6
Brown-h. Cowbird	L	130	89	Swamp Sparrow	H+	30	44
				Song Sparrow	L-	853	100

Status Notations:

H+	new record high	N+	above normal	L	second low
H=	equal to previous high	N	near median	L=	equal to previous low
H	second high	N-	below normal	L-	new record low
*	non-breeding, not counted				

USFWS Cooperative Breeding Bird Survey -- 1983 cont.

TABLE 2

Species Recorded in Previous Years But Not in 1983

<u>Species</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Status</u>
Pied-b. Grebe	N-	L. Golden Plover	N*	Bl.-&-w. Warbler	N
Bl.-cr. Night-Heron	N	Amer. Woodcock	N	Golden-w. Warbler	N
Least Bittern	N	Herring Gull	N	Brewster's Warbler	N
American Bittern	N	Black Tern	N	Bl.-thr. B. Warbler	N
Amer. Black Duck	N	Whip-poor-will	N	Yellow-r. Warbler	N
Blue-w. Teal	N	Common Nighthawk	N	Cerulean Warbler	N
Northern Shoveler	N	Yellow-b. Flycatcher	N	Pine Warbler	N
Bufflehead	N	Olive-s. Flycatcher	N*	Nor. Waterthrush	N
Hooded Merganser	N	Cliff Swallow	L=	Wilson's Warbler	N*
Wild Turkey	N	Tufted Titmouse	N	W. Meadowlark	N
Virginia Rail	N	Carolina Wren	N	Rusty Blackbird	N*
Sora	N	Marsh Wren	N	Red Crossbill	N
Common Moorhen	N	Sedge Wren	N	Wh.-cr. Sparrow	N*
American Coot	N	Bl.-gr. Gnatcatcher	N		

Without showing any detail the following species are classified as increasing or decreasing by comparisons of totals over the entire 16 years.

Increasing

Turkey Vulture
Sharp-sh. Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
Ring-b. Gull
Black-c. Chickadee
Yellow Warbler
Com. Yellowthroat
Northern Cardinal
Rose-br. Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting

Decreasing

Amer. Black Duck
Wood Duck
Upland Sandpiper
Spotted Sandpiper
Northern Flicker
Eastern Phoebe
Horned Lark
No. Rough-w. Swallow
Brown Thrasher
Hermit Thrush
European Starling
Blackburnian Warbler
Chestnut-s. Warbler
E. Meadowlark
Brown-h. Cowbird
American Goldfinch
Rufous-s. Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Song Sparrow

What justifies putting the Starling on the decreasing list? Not only were each of the totals in the last eight years lower than all in the first eight years, but the sum total was 22% lower than for the first eight years.

4923 Creek Rd., Lewiston, N.Y. 14092

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

- October 26th: 4th Year Atlas Summary, Bob Andrie, Region 1 Coordinator for the New York State Breeding Bird Atlas Project, will summarize the first four years of the survey. He will update us on the project, and show us how we can bring the Region 1 Atlas to a successful conclusion.
- November 9th: Curlew, Pigeon and Parakeet, presented by Bob Klips. The natural history of some extinct birds which flew the skies of the Niagara Frontier Region.
- December 14th: Introduction to Other Periodicals, Marie Wendling, B.O.S.' Librarian, will talk about 'other' birding type periodicals that are available in the libraries or directly through memberships or by subscription.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- November 6th: A trip to Chautauqua Lake. Fran Rew, Leader (649-4192). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Leisureland, Hamburg or at 8:30 a.m. at Dunkirk Harbor.
- November 20th: Niagara River for Gulls. Joint field trip with Genesee Ornithological Society. Leaders: Dick Byron, B.O.S. (office, 892-9496), and Gordon Meade, G.O.S. (248-2032). Meet at Old Fort Niagara at 9:30 a.m.
- December 18th: Christmas Bird Count. Compiler: Bill Bogacki (674-5781).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592, Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTI day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney
Harnish (mailing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



THE PROTHONOTARY

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

OCTOBER 1983

NUMBER 10

THE MONTH

Unseasonably warm summer weather continued through the first ten days of September with the first cold front of the season of any consequence not occurring until September 12th; temperatures remained below normal for several days thereafter. Heavy rains and high winds on September 16th constituted the only major weather disturbance of the month; heavy early morning frosts were recorded in the valleys and higher elevations of the Southern Tier counties on the 24th and 25th but temperatures were seasonal for the rest of the period. The average temperature in September was 63.7° (F), 1.6° above normal. Precipitation measured 2.11 inches, 1.26 inches below average. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

Bird migration in September was not remarkable with few significant flights of passerine migrants reported. On September 17th, Morgan Jones captured a Connecticut Warbler in a mist net at Fredonia in Chautauqua County and banded it. The Connecticut Warbler is an uncommon passage migrant through the Niagara Frontier region in autumn but Jones was one of several banders in our study area who commented on the low numbers of migrating warblers and other birds passing through their stations. Following the weather disturbance on September 17th, pockets of warblers and other passerines were much in evidence and during the spell of cool weather following, the calls of migrating birds were audible overhead in the evenings. It is pleasant to relate that the annual carnage at the television towers in the Towns of Wales and Colden in southern Erie County was limited to less than fifty birds in September. Art Clark of the Buffalo Museum of Science, who has conducted a daily census of kills at these towers for the past sixteen years during September, advises that it is the smallest total of birds killed since the inception of the project in 1967 and a welcome contrast to the record mortality of only one year ago. Clark attributes the light kill this year to a succession of relatively clear skies with light cloud cover during the evenings of larger flights and to the fact that passerine bird migrants were simply fewer in number in our area this month.

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

As noted, the first cold front of the autumn passed through the Great Lakes region overnight on September 11th and 12th. Anticipating the weather change, Ward and Miriam Klepfer drove to the City of St. Thomas in Elgin County, Ontario on the 11th and spent the following day at 'Hawk Cliff', the look-out at nearby Port Stanley where large numbers of hawks and other raptors can be observed moving in a southwesterly direction in their autumn passage along the Lake Erie Shore and a few miles inland when meteorological conditions are right to precipitate such flights. On the 12th, with the winds shifted to the north for the first time since September 1st, Klepfer counted 100 Broad-winged Hawks, 400 Sharp-shinned Hawks and six Ospreys before returning to Buffalo in the late afternoon. As the high pressure continued to build and the cold front deepened, the Klepfers returned to Port Stanley early in the morning of September 14th, in time to witness the passage of 25,000 Broad-wings, 250 Sharp-shins and seven Ospreys on northwest winds. On the following day, the winds shifted to the south and only 250 Broad-wings, 175 Sharp-shins and three Ospreys passed the look-out. As in 1981, Ward Klepfer managed to witness the autumn flight of the Broad-winged Hawks at its apogee by consulting the meteorological forecasts for the second week of September, the usual time for the movement of these hawks across southwestern Ontario. Later in the month, on September 30th, he witnessed a mini-migration of 28 Sharp-shinned Hawks passing over the Thunder Bay Road in the Town of Ridgway, Ontario between 3:00 and 4:30 p.m., where they proceeded in a northeasterly direction on strong northeast winds.

Among the interesting records reported in September was a female Ring-necked Duck, possibly a summer visitor, seen by Bob Andrie and a group of observers at Times Beach in Buffalo on September 3rd. Andrie and Bob Brock also saw a Black-headed Gull in eclipse plumage on this date, sitting on a rocky ledge in the Niagara River above Three Sisters Island at Niagara Falls, N.Y. The bird, apparently an adult, was in moult but the faded greyish brown hood on the head was still visible. The bird was noticeably larger than the Bonaparte's Gulls with which it was associated. On the following day, Andrie and his party saw a very early immature Black-legged Kittiwake flying among a group of Bonaparte's Gulls at Rock Point Provincial Park in Sherbrooke Township, Ontario.

A Willet, present at the Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary near Dunkirk on September 9th, was seen by several observers.

Vivian Pitzrick reported five early Golden-crowned Kinglets on September 8th. The birds were in a stand of Scotch Pine near Amity Lake in the Town of Belmont in Allegany County; two definitely were identified as adults but the other two may have been young of the year and part of a post breeding dispersal flock rather than early migrants.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

SEPTEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

* - Indicates first record for the year.

F - Indicates first record for the migration.

L - Indicates last record for the migration.

(f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

D.-cr. Cormorant	Sept.	24	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Bl.-cr. Night-Heron	"	18,19	23,6 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
Canada Goose	"	29 F	'flock' over Belmont	Brooks
Green-w. Teal	"	17,26	4,2 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Pintail	"	5	1 Oak Orchard WMA	McKales
	"	17,26	1,1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Gadwall	"	22	2 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
Ring-n. Duck	"	3	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Osprey	"	5 F	1 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	18	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
	"	30	2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	30	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	30	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Klips
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	5	1 Town of Ashford	Hess
	"	18	2 Town of Holland	Rosche
	"	28	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	29	1 Town of Elma	Forsberg
	"	30	1 Buffalo	Hess
	"	30	28 Thunder Bay, Ont.	Klepfer
Cooper's Hawk	"	17	1 Fredonia	Mosher et al
	"	28	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Northern Goshawk	"	5	1 Town of Angelica	Pitzrick
Broad-wing. Hawk	"	4 F	1 over Pendleton	McKales
	"	12,19	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	13	1 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
Wild Turkey	"	21	10 Town of Evans	O'Dell
L. Golden Plover	"	16	2 Lowbanks, Ont.	Klepfer
Solitary Sandpiper	"	3,4	1,1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
Willet	"	9	1 Canadaway Creek N.S.	Flory et al
Whimbrel	"	24	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klips
	"	27	1 Erie Beach, Ont.	Klepfer
*Franklin's Gull	"	17 F	1 Niagara Falls	Burchs
	"	17 F	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
C. Bl.-headed Gull	"	3	1 Niagara Falls	Brock
*Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	4	1 Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Andrle et al
Caspian Tern	"	19	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher et al

Forster's Tern	Sept.	24	1 Buffalo	Hess
Yellow-b. Cuckoo	"	18	1 Niagara Falls	Burch, Jones
Ruby-t. Hummingbird	"	30	5 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Common Nighthawk	"	27	30 over Buffalo	Hess
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	25	1 Lewiston	Klabunde
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	"	3 F, 28	1, 1 Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	12	1 Alfred	Brooks
Least Flycatcher	"	17 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Gr.-Crest. Flycatcher	"	22 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Kingbird	"	24 L	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
N. Rough-w. Swallow	"	22	65 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
Cliff Swallow	"	2 L	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Barn Swallow	"	2-25	2-65 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Brown Creeper	"	17 F	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Hess
	"	19	3 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
House Wren	"	28	3 Town of Wales	Rosche
Winter Wren	"	26 F	1 Fort Niagara St. Pk.	Klabunde
	"	27	1 Alfred	Brooks
Carolina Wren	"	25	1 Beaver Island St. Pk.	McKales
Marsh Wren	"	18	1 Tonawanda WMA	D'Anna et al
Tufted Titmouse	"	8	1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	9	2 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Golden-cr. Kinglet	"	8 F	5 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
	"	15, 30	2, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	25	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	13 F, 16,		
	"	28, 30	1, 1, 1, 5 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	19	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Eastern Bluebird	"	17, 19	2, 1 Fredonia	Flory
	"	18	6 Fredonia	Flory et al
	"	20, 29	19, 17 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
		(maximum count for month)		
	"	24	1 Point Abino, Ont.	Klepfer
Veery	"	9	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	30 L	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	12 F	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	22, 27	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
Swainson's Thrush	"	15, 25	1, 1 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	21, 27	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
Hermit Thrush	"	29 F	1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
N. Mockingbird	"	5	1 Fredonia	Mosher
Yellow-thr. Vireo	"	9 L	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Philadelphia Vireo	"	13, 15, 27	3, 1, 3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	19	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Blue-w. Warbler	"	17 L	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Golden-w. Warbler	"	9 L	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Bl-thr. Blue Warbler	"	2 F	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	29	15 Alfred	Brooks
	"	30	6 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Pine Warbler	"	13	1 Town of Wales	Rosche

Prairie Warbler	Sept.	17 L	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
			(previously documented location)	
Bl.&w. Warbler	"	2 F	1 Fredonia	Mosher
*Connecticut Warbler	"	17	1 Fredonia	Mosher et al
Hooded Warbler	"	25 L	1 Chestnut Ridge Pk.	O'Dell
Lincoln's Sparrow	"	22 F	1 Alfred	Brooks
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	17 F	2 Town of Pomfret	Mosher et al
	"	19	1 Eggertsville	McKales
	"	19	25 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	19,29	1,1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	26	30 Fort Niagara St. Pk.	Klabunde
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	24 F	1 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
	"	26,30	1,3 Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	28	3 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	28	4 Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	28	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Dark-eyed Junco	"	2 F,3	3,3 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	14-30	1-10 Alfred	Brooks
Bobolink	"	1 L	40 Youngstown	D'Anna, Potter
Northern Oriole	"	4 L	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick

Species, subspecies and hybrids previously recorded this year.	261
Species, subspecies and hybrids recorded this month.	<u>3</u>
Total for year	264

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

EXCERPTS FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of September 14, 1983

Dr. Andrie thanked all present who participated in the N.Y. State Breeding Bird Atlas. He mentioned that the Museum is having a "Good Earth Festival" September 24-25. The B.O.S. will participate, with a table display on raptors. Volunteers are needed to staff the tables. Also, the Date Guide manuscript is just about finished, as is the B.O.S. checklist.

Kenneth Cohen discussed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposal 40CFR 21.21 to allow anyone to pick up a bird (road kills) and have it stuffed for own use. The bottom line of the discussion was that museums do use the birds for education, but the Federal agents do not have enough manpower.

It was mentioned that Roger Tory Peterson's collections will eventually be housed in the Nature Study Institute at Jamestown Community College.

Membership: Susan Grudniewski, Rick Gagnon, Cathy Mueller, and Mary Ann Ganci were proposed and approved for Associate Membership. Additionally, the Committee proposed and the membership approved, John Morse for Honorary Membership.

EXCERPTS FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of September 14, 1983

Program: Summer birding experiences were related by all present, including short slide presentations by Bill Burch, Marion Dornhoffer, Bob Klips, Audrey Horbett and Fran Rew.

Submitted by,

Karen E. Renning, Secretary

EXCERPTS FROM THE B.O.S. MEETING of September 28, 1983

Various people gave schedules, updates and notice of deadlines regarding programs, field trips, the Annual Banquet, the October Bird Count, the Atlas Project, and the Date Guide and Checklist (both at the printer).

President Wavel Barber thanked those who participated in the Good Earth Festival.

Membership: Vivian Souden was proposed and approved for Associate Membership.

The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers for 1983-84:

President	Wavel Barber
Vice President	Robert W. Brock
Treasurer	William E. Townsend
Secretary	Julia Wells
Librarian	Marie Wendling
Statisticians	Dr. Robert F. Andrie
	Frances M. Rew
Council (3 yr. term expires 1986)	Marc Chelemer
	Dr. David R. Cooper
	Barbara Walker

Program: Bob Brock presented a program on birders' optical equipment.

Submitted by,

Karen E. Renning, Secretary

NOTE

The Buffalo Museum of Science is, for security reasons, requesting all evening visitors to the Museum to sign in at the security console. Also, they have advised their members, affiliates and guests to park in the center of the parking lot or against the fence near the street, and, not to park against the fence on the park side.

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

January 11th: "Where the Birds Are." Several members will discuss prime birding areas within certain sections of B.O.S. territory.
This begins an effort to compile information describing the best birding locations in our territory.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

January ^{15th}~~8th~~: January waterfowl count. Contact Dr. Allan Reckow for assignment.
(target date)

January ^{8th}~~15th~~: Niagara River Trip. Leader: Dr. Harold Axtell. Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:00 a.m. or at the 1st parking lot south of the Peace Bridge at 8:15 a.m.

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2502, Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (printing), Bonney
Harnish (mailing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

THE PROTHONOTARY

ALBERT R. MANN
LIBRARY
ITHACA, N.Y. 14853

PUBLISHED MONTHLY SEP 08 1984

THE
BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

NOVEMBER 1983

NUMBER 11

THE MONTH

October was a wet and windy month with precipitation in the form of rain measuring 4.62 inches at the Greater Buffalo International Airport, 1.69 inches above normal for this period. The month began with a period of mild weather punctuated with a brief cold spell on the 9th and 10th but with a record high temperature reading of 82°(F) on October 13th. On the following day, southwest gale force winds buffeted the area with gusts up to 60 m.p.h., ushering in a cold front which brought the first snow flurries of the season at higher elevations in the Southern Tier counties; below normal temperature readings were recorded for the remainder of the month. The average temperature for the month was 51.7°(F), 0.2° above normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

The cold front on October 9th gave the impetus to the first big flight of migrating waterfowl into our study area. The Niagara River, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the wetlands east of Buffalo were filled with ducks and geese. Over 800 Canada Geese were counted in the Oak Orchard area on the 9th. On a field trip to Chautauque Lake on that date, Vivian Pitzrick and Robert Sundell saw over 600 American Coots at Celeron. Also on the 9th, Bob Andrie recorded the first Little Gull of the fall season in the Niagara River above the Peace Bridge flying amid several hundred Bonaparte's Gulls. On October 16th, a total of 57 Double-crested Cormorants were counted flying west past Dunkirk Harbor. During the gale on the 14th, 80 Chimney Swifts, a record high count for the date, were seen over Fort Erie, Ontario with a smaller number, thirty birds, counted over Buffalo.

Arthur Clark reports that the nocturnal migration of small passerines through Western New York in October resulted in a total of 118 dead birds recovered at the bases of three television towers in the towns of Colden and Wales in southern Erie County. Of this amount, 95 birds of nine species were killed in a flight during the night of October 25th and included 64 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 17 Ruby-crowned

Kinglets and a rare passage migrant, a Sharp-tailed Sparrow. This bird, which had the buffy breast and conspicuous dorsal streaking of the race Ammodramus caudacutus nelsoni was recovered by Clark from the base of the WKBW-TV (Channel 7) television tower on Center Street in the Town of Colden.

On October 7th, Vivian Pitzrick was at Lake Erie State Park south of Dunkirk on N.Y. Route #5 in Chautauqua County, in the company of four other Allegany County bird-watchers, Katherine Palmer, Elizabeth Brooks, Erma Larson and Lois Chapman. The group scanned the gulls gathered there and noticed what appeared to be "a small version of the Greater Black-backed (Gull)" of which there were several individuals among the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls. This small gull had black wings and back very similar to the color pattern of the Greater Black-backed Gulls with which it associated but its bright yellow legs contrasted sharply with the greyish-pink legs of the larger birds. Mrs. Pitzrick was satisfied that her group had found a Lesser Black-backed Gull and she was pleased to have the identification confirmed by long time B.O.S. member Winston Brockner, now a resident of Colorado who had returned to Western New York with his wife, Sylvia, to attend the State Federation of Bird Clubs Annual Meeting which was held at the State University College at Fredonia that weekend. This gull or a second bird of this species was subsequently seen in Dunkirk Harbor on October 18th.

Other interesting birds reported in October include an immature Peregrine Falcon which Frances Rew saw in flight over the State Wildlife Management Area marsh east of N.Y. Route #77 in Genesee County on the 9th. The falcon appeared to be carrying the remains of a shorebird in its talons as it flew past. Flayne Farnan, the resident owl expert in Port Colborne, Ontario reports a Barn Owl, an uncommon local resident in our study area, from Dunnville, Ontario on October 25th. On October 26th, Willie D'Anna saw a very late Barn Swallow in flight over Goat Island in the upper Niagara River at Niagara Falls.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

OCTOBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Volume 49, No. 11 "October Noteworthy Records" cont.

Common Loon	Oct.	9	1 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
	"	10	1 Buffalo Harbor	Andrle, Brock
	"	28	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	29	4 Point Gratiot	Mosher
	"	30	1 Lewiston	Cooper
Pied-billed Grebe	"	2 F	15 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Foster
	"	3-24	1-2 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	10	10 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle et al
	"	25	1 Alfred	Brooks
Horned Grebe	"	25	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	30	2 Lewiston	Cooper
D.-crest. Cormorant	"	7	8 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	14, 21, 28	2, 2, 2 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	10	16 Mohawk Island, Ont.	Clarks
Canada Goose	"	5, 9	300, 200 over Darien Center	Harper
	"	6, 16	500, 110 over Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	27	350 over Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Wood Duck	"	16	8 Alfred	Brooks
Green-w. Teal	"	21	1 Niagara Falls, NY	Klabundes
Gadwall	"	7-28	1-9 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
	"	9	11 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
American Wigeon	"	10	35 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
	"	21	8 Niagara Falls	Klabundes
Redhead	"	9 F	10 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
	"	10	1 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle
Ring-necked Duck	"	2 F, 9	2, 20 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	10	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle
Lesser Scaup	"	9 F	20 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
	"	16	15 Alfred	Brooks
	"	30	500 Lewiston	Cooper
Greater Scaup	"	10 F	80 Lowbanks, Ont.	Clarks
	"	30	5400 Lewiston	Cooper
White-w. Scoter	"	8 F	1 Point Gratiot	Mosher, Sundell
	"	9	7 Buffalo	Andrle et al
Hooded Merganser	"	2	20 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	19, 27	1, 1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-br. Merganser	"	29	300 Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher
Ruddy Duck	"	2 F, 27	4, 4 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	7	6 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	9	13 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
	"	30	2 Lewiston	Cooper
Turkey Vulture	"	22 L	1 Gainesville	Barbers
Osprey	"	1	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	9	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	26	1 Iroquois NWR	Axtell
Sharp-sh. Hawk	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	10	2 Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
	"	25	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	27	1 Clarence	McKales
Cooper's Hawk	"	22	1 Hermitage	Barbers

Peregrine Falcon	Oct.	9	1 Tonawanda WMA	Rew
Common Moorhen	"	9	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
	"	10	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
	"	28 L	3 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
American Coot	"	9 F	600 Celoron	Pitzrick et al
	"	21	1 Niagara Falls	Klabundes
Black-bell. Plover	"	21	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
L. Golden Plover	"	27	2 Town of Clarence	McKales
Greater Yellowlegs	"	6	2 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Dishaw
	"	9	2 Iroquois NWR	McKales
	"	9	13 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Lesser Yellowlegs	"	6	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Dishaw
	"	9	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Solitary Sandpiper	"	18 L	1 Springville	O'Dell
Pectoral Sandpiper	"	10	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle, Brock
Dunlin	"	14 F, 21	2, 11 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
	"	21	2 Niagara Falls	Klabundes
	"	24, 26	2, 6 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Amer. Woodcock	"	6 F, 27	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	14	4 Town of Charlotte	Thill, Welch
Little Gull	"	9 F, 10	1, 1 Niagara River, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Lesser Black-b. Gull	"	7	1 Lake Erie State Pk.	Pitzrick et al
Common Tern	"	14	200 Niagara River, Bflo.	Clark
	"	28 L	3 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew
Forster's Tern	"	1	2 Lackawanna	Clark
*Common Barn Owl	"	25	1 Dunnville, Ont.	Farnan
Long-eared Owl	"	30	1 Port Colborne, Ont.	Farnan
*N. Saw-whet Owl	"	30	2 Port Colborne, Ont.	Farnan
Common Nighthawk	"	13	1 Buffalo	Andrle, Byron
Chimney Swift	"	4	75 over Fredonia	Goetz
	"	14	80 over Fort Erie, Ont.	Clark
	"	14, 15	40, 26 over Buffalo	Clark
Red-headed Wdpkr.	"	2	1 Canadaway Cr. N.S.	Rew
	"	7	1 Dunkirk	Rew
	"	7	1 Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
	"	17	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	14-31	1 Spring Brook	Danner
E. Wood Pewee	"	9 L	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Eastern Phoebe	"	1-11	1 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
Tree Swallow	"	10	60 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Andrle, Brock
N. Rough-w. Swallow	"	9	3 Tonawanda WMA	McKales
Barn Swallow	"	26 L	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna, Potter
Tufted Titmouse	"	1, 2, 18	5, 2, 1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	5, 20	1, 1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	14, 26	1, 2 Buffalo	O'Dell
	"	25	4 Dunnville, Ont.	Farnan
	"	30	3 Port Colborne, Ont.	Farnan
House Wren	"	15	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	23	2 Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle et al
Winter Wren	"	15, 25	1, 1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	15	1 Lockport	D'Anna

Volume 49, No. 11 "October Noteworthy Records" cont.

Golden-cr. Kinglet	Oct.	9	15	Town of Holland	Rosche
"	"	25	10	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Eastern Bluebird	"	1-31	10-17	Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	25	4	Town of Colden	Clark
Gray-ch. Thrush	"	20	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Hermit Thrush	"	27	1	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	27	1	Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
N. Mockingbird	"	17	1	Fredonia	Flory, Goetz
"	"	27,30	1,1	Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Brown Thrasher	"	27 L	1	Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Water Pipit	"	7 F	100	Town of Clarence	D'Anna et al
"	"	17	200	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	19	150	Fredonia	Flory, Goetz
"	"	27	160	Town of Clarence	McKales
Cedar Waxwing	"	27	90	Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Solitary Vireo	"	15	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	15	1	Lockport	D'Anna
Red-eyed Vireo	"	20 L	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Tennessee Warbler	"	10	2	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
Orange-cr. Warbler	"	9	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Nashville Warbler	"	13	1	Buffalo	O'Dell
Northern Parula	"	1	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
Magnolia Warbler	"	10	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle, Brock
Cape May Warbler	"	10	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	Andrle, Brock
Bl.-thr. Blue Warbler	"	21 L	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	2,10	27,32	Town of Amity	Pitzrick
(maximum counts for month)					
Pine Warbler	"	10	1	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
Bay-br. Warbler	"	13	2	Buffalo	O'Dell
Scarlet Tanager	"	6	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Amer. Tree Sparrow	"	25,30	1,1	Alfred	Brooks
"	"	27	1	Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Vesper Sparrow	"	29 L	1	Town of Charlotte	Rew
Grasshopper Sparrow	"	25	1	Town of Colden	Clark
*Sharp-t. Sparrow	"	25	1	Town of Colden	Clark
(TV tower casualty; specimen in BSNS collection)					
Fox Sparrow	"	20,25	1,1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
"	"	27	1	Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
Lincoln's Sparrow	"	7	1	Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
Dark-eyed Junco	"	27	150	Town of Amity	Pitzricks
Snow Bunting	"	26 F	15	Iroquois NWR	Axtell
"	"	30	1	Lewiston	Cooper
"	"	31	15	Lewiston	D'Anna
Rusty Blackbird	"	7 F	32	Iroquois NWR	D'Anna et al
"	"	10	6	Tifft Farm N.P.	Andrle, Brock
"	"	19,25	1,1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	27	35	Iroquois NWR	McKales
Common Grackle	"	9	8000	Darien Center	Harper
"	"	31	2000	Town of Wales	Rosche
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	9	150	Akron	McKale

Pine Siskin	Oct.	12 F	2 Beaver Meadow EEC	Rosche
	"	16	8 Alfred	Brooks
	"	17-29	1-20 Town of Amity (f)	Pitzrick
	"	27	2 Rose Hill, Ont.	Axtell
	"	31	6 Darien Center	Harper
Evening Grosbeak	"	20-31	2-32 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	29	8 Town of Pomfret	Rew
	"	30	15 Alfred	Brooks
	"	30	1 Spring Brook	Danner

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year. 264

Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this month.(incl. 2 from Oct. count). 5

Total for year 269

ERRATA

Prothonotary, vol. 49:8, page 125, under Red-breasted Nuthatch:

change:

July	6	14 Scio	Pitzrick
------	---	---------	----------

to

July	6	1 Scio	Pitzrick
------	---	--------	----------

and add:

July	8,21	1,1 Amity Twp.	Pitzrick
------	------	----------------	----------

July	14	1 Ward Twp.	Pitzrick
------	----	-------------	----------

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER B.O.S. MEETINGS

October 14th - The Annual Banquet (935th Meeting)

The meeting was held at the Park Lane Manor House at 8:00 P.M.

The Council recommended that dues for 1984 remain the same (no change in dues structure).

The Nominating Committee nominated, and the membership elected, the following slate of officers:

President:	Wavel Barber
Vice President:	Robert W. Brock
Treasurer:	William E. Townsend

October 14th - The Annual Banquet (935th Meeting) cont.

Secretary:	Julia Wells
Librarian:	Marie Wendling
Statisticians:	Dr. Robert Andrle
	Frances M. Rew
Council: (3-year	
term, exp. 1986)	Marc Chelemer
	Dr. David R. Cooper
	Barbara Walker

(Present Council Members: Exp. 1984 - William Bogacki, Bob Brock, Dick Christensen; Exp. 1985 - William Burch, Walter Klabunde, Frances Rew)

The program was given by Dr. William Robinson of Pittsburgh. He presented a slide-illustrated talk on shorebirds.

(submitted by Karen E. Renning)

October 26th (936th Meeting)

Minutes, Program, Field Trip and upcoming bird count announcements were given. Marc Chelemer extended thanks to all 66 people who attended the Banquet, and he in turn was thanked for his job well done in organizing it.

Dr. Andrle brought to our attention the misrepresentation on the NYS Tax Form of the Gift for Wildlife. Also, the Education Department of NYSDEC has requested a list of wildlife events and "critters" nomination for an "I Love NY" booklet to be published.

Wavel Barber read a letter from John S. Morse thanking the B.O.S. for the Honorary Membership. It included a map to his new home.

Mike Turisk reported seeing 38 species on the Audubon Birdathon.

Wavel read letters from Francis J. Bajer, Program Administrator, and Don Herold, Director of the Buffalo Museum of Science, thanking the B.O.S. for participation in the Good Earth Festival. Don Herold's letter included an announcement for a new project of providing 7 carts to hold projectors and other equipment used by the affiliates at their meetings. The total cost will be \$600, to be paid by the affiliates. A motion, later tabled, was made to donate \$100 to this project.

Jack Wright is recuperating from a recent operation at DeGraf Memorial Hospital.

It was announced that the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs is looking for a location for the 1986 Annual Meeting and Buffalo is a possibility.

Program: Dr. Andrle and Bob Brock spoke on the Breeding Bird Atlas, giving a summary of the past 4 years.

(submitted by Julia Wells)

New Members

Welcome to the following new Associate Members:

Jeff Zehr
154 Findlay Avenue
Tonawanda, NY 14150
835-0239

Mary Ann Stegmeier
1340 Maple Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
688-2957

* * * * *

Perkins Road
Sanbornton, NH 03269
October 3, 1983

Buffalo Ornithological Society

Dear Members:

I was surprised and felt greatly honored to learn that I had been approved for Honorary Membership. Since retiring to New Hampshire, I have missed the contacts with the B.O.S. members. If any of you are traveling in New Hampshire, you are cordially invited to drop in on us. I will be glad to show any of you the local birding spots. We have, however, nothing to compare with the abundance of birds that are present in the Niagara Gorge or at the Federal or State Wildlife Refuges. I am enclosing directions for reaching our house.

Again, I wish to thank everybody concerned for making me an Honorary Member.

Sincerely,

John S. Morse

(Editor's Note: The directions to John's house are on file and may be obtained from me, the B.O.S. President, or the Statisticians.)

* * * * *

REPORT OF FALL BIRD COUNT

Date: October 16, 1983

Compiler: Barbara Walker

Weather: Sunny early to overcast late afternoon.
Temp. 40 to 60° (F). Winds E-NE 15-20 mph.

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

Compilation: Following is a list of species recorded on the count and total numbers of each. Figures in parentheses indicate section numbers where species were recorded in three or fewer sections. Underlined common names indicate that acceptable written verifications were required and accepted.

Loons - Waterfowl

Common Loon - 7	American Wigeon - 170
Pied-billed Grebe - 66	Canvasback - 2 (5,9)
Horned Grebe - 73	Redhead - 12
Dbl-cr. Cormorant - 77	Ring-necked Duck - 72
Great Blue Heron - 83	Greater Scaup - 201
Green-backed Heron - 11	Lesser Scaup - 946
Tundra Swan - 7	*Black Scoter - 15
Canada Goose - 3,147	*Surf Scoter - 14
Wood Duck - 148	White-winged Scoter - 24
Green-winged Teal - 25	Bufflehead - 3 (20,21)
Am. Black Duck - 167	Hooded Merganser - 13
Mallard - 2,144	Common Merganser - 25
Northern Pintail - 11	Red-br. Merganser - 214
Blue-winged Teal - 38	Ruddy Duck - 50
Gadwall - 56	Unidentified Ducks - 990

Vulture - Rails

Turkey Vulture - 54	Rough-legged Hawk - 2 (8,23)
Osprey - 7	American Kestrel - 122
Bald Eagle - 1 (5)	<u>Merlin</u> - 2 (6)
Northern Harrier - 31	Ring-necked Pheasant - 64
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 18	Ruffed Grouse - 56
Cooper's Hawk - 11	Wild Turkey - 166
Red-shldr. Hawk - 2 (21)	Virginia Rail - 1 (11)
Red-tailed Hawk - 209	Common Moorhen - 1 (11)
	American Coot - 1,301

Shorebirds

Black-bellied Plover - 28	Red Knot - 1 (6)
Lesser Golden-Plover - 28	Sanderling - 19
Semipalmated Plover - 1 (6)	Semipalmated Sandpiper - 7
Killdeer - 778	Least Sandpiper - 23
Greater Yellowlegs - 29	Pectoral Sandpiper - 42
Lesser Yellowlegs - 19	Dunlin - 63
Solitary Sandpiper - 13	<u>Dowitcher sp.</u> - 3 (19)
Spotted Sandpiper - 5	Common Snipe - 30
<u>Hudsonian Godwit</u> - 1 (1)	American Woodcock - 5

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

Gulls - Woodpeckers

Little Gull - 2 (11)
Bonaparte's Gull - 2,136
Ring-billed Gull - 15,316
Herring Gull - 2,503
Great Bl.-backed Gull - 231
Common Tern - 263
Forster's Tern - 2 (11)
Black Tern - 1 (21)
Rock Dove - 3,335
Mourning Dove - 1,289
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 1 (16)
E. Screech-Owl - 3 (6,11,28)

Great Horned Owl - 18
Barred Owl - 2 (14,25)
Long-eared Owl - 3 (8)
Common Nighthawk - 2 (7) L
Belted Kingfisher - 77
Red-headed Wdpkr. - 16
Red-bellied Wdpkr. - 14
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 6
Downy Woodpecker - 256
Hairy Woodpecker - 80
Northern Flicker - 184
Pileated Wdpkr. - 11

Tyrant Flycatchers - Thrushes

Eastern Phoebe - 17 L
Horned Lark - 37
Tree Swallow - 111
Barn Swallow - 1 (17)
Blue Jay - 1,578
American Crow - 2,559
Bl.-capd. Chickadee - 1,493
Tufted Titmouse - 20
Red-br. Nuthatch - 34
Wh.-br. Nuthatch - 332
Brown Creeper - 75
Carolina Wren - 3 (14)

House Wren - 5
Winter Wren - 15
Marsh Wren - 7
Golden-cr. Kinglet - 514
Ruby-cr. Kinglet - 229
Eastern Bluebird - 135
Veery - 1 (9)
Gray-cheek. Thrush - 3 (6,20)
Swainson's Thrush - 11
Hermit Thrush - 42
Wood Thrush - 6
American Robin - 3,340

Mimids - Wood Warblers

Gray Catbird - 18
N. Mockingbird - 32
Water Pipit - 390
Cedar Waxwing - 728
European Starling - 28,422
Solitary Vireo - 3 (9,11)
Tennessee Warbler - 1 (21) L
Orange-crowned Warbler - 1 (10) L
Nashville Warbler - 4
Northern Parula - 1 (21)
Magnolia Warbler - 7

Cape May Warbler - 1 (20) L
Bl.-throated Blue Warbler - 1 (20)
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 526
Bl.-throated Green Warbler - 1 (5) L
Pine Warbler - 1 (21)
Palm Warbler - 3 (20) L
Bay-breasted Warbler - 1 (6) L
Bl.-&-W. Warbler - 3 (6,20) L
American Redstart - 3 (6,20) L
Common Yellowthroat - 3 (11,21,28)
Wilson's Warbler - 1 (20) L

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

Tanager - Weaver Finch

Scarlet Tanager - 1 (7) L
Northern Cardinal - 336
Rose-br. Grosbeak - 3 (28)
Rufous-sided Towhee - 16
Am. Tree Sparrow - 21 F
Chipping Sparrow - 262
Field Sparrow - 143
Vesper Sparrow - 18
Savannah Sparrow - 47
Fox Sparrow - 6 F
Song Sparrow - 999
Lincoln's Sparrow - 1 (21) L
Swamp Sparrow - 56

Wh.-throated Sparrow - 1,212
Wh.-crowned Sparrow - 308
Dark-eyed Junco - 2,775
Red-winged Blackbird - 15,874
Eastern Meadowlark - 109
Rusty Blackbird - 419
Common Grackle - 6,252
Brown-headed Cowbird - 1,493
Purple Finch - 181
House Finch - 856
Pine Siskin - 38
American Goldfinch - 1,048
Evening Grosbeak - 39 F
House Sparrow - 4,227

Total Species	161
Total Individuals	115,104

Sections and Observers: Many thanks are given to the section compilers and observers who combined to make this October Count a success. In the listing that follows, compilers' names are underlined.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Fonthill, Ont. | <u>Gary Novosel</u> , Michael Jebb. |
| 2. Thorold, Ont. | <u>Robert L. Sommerville</u> , Audrey Barnsley, Frank Barnsley. |
| 3. Wilson, N.Y. | <u>Harriette & Walter Klabunde</u> , Will D'Anna, Ann Miranian, Betsy Potter. |
| 4. Middleport, N.Y. | <u>Robert Brock</u> , Marge Harwitz. |
| 5. Oak Orchard, N.Y. | <u>Dick & Peggy Christensen</u> , Bill Burch, Drew Campbell, Bill Townsend, Paul Gartelmann, Ed & Connie Fessler. |
| 6. Port Maitland, Ont. | <u>Ed. Williams</u> , Richard Stockton. |
| 7. Lowbanks, Ont. | <u>Blayne Farnan</u> , Fred Stratton, Frank Mueller, Bonnie Joule, Marge Millman, Bob Millman, Mary Ellen Foley. |
| 8. Fort Erie, Ont. | <u>Marc Chelemer</u> , Kim Cassell. |
| 9. Grand Island, N.Y. | <u>Karen Renning</u> , Edward Crohn, Mary Ann Stegneier, Marg Wright, Barb Lindeman. |

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

10. Akron, N.Y. Bob Wagner.
11. Buffalo, N.Y. Mike Zebehazy, Robert Andrie, Richard Byron, Arthur Clark, Peggy Daniels, Art Schaffner, Robert & Pauline Schwartz, Bobbi Tomasi, Julia Wells.
12. Lancaster, N.Y. Marie Wendling, Anna Bauer, Ima Bill, Dorothy & Fred Danner, Ray Franz, Tom Harper, Gertrude Webster, Cy Wolfling.
13. Batavia, N.Y. Max & Jane Mason, David Keller, Don Thureau, Dave Thompson, Robert & Eileen Hull, Marge Pixley.
14. Hamburg, N.Y. Barbara Walker, Erma Kern, Bob & Lucille Leonard, Ken Brandes, Barb Howard, Mae Ruhl, Phyl Hansen, Lois Abbott, Marian Dornhaeffer, Jane Skrypic, Clarence & Mary Herbst, Agnes Orfeo.
15. Java, N.Y. Bill Bogacki, Esther Becker, Marian Bee, Art & Olga Rosche, Ron Rycroft, Tom Rycroft.
16. Angola, N.Y. Maxine & Wavel Barber, Gretchen & Richard Stevenson.
17. Cattaraugus, N.Y. Audrey Horbett, Carolyn Frank, Rae Uhl.
18. Delevan, N.Y. Jane & Don Clark.
19. Fillmore, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Katherine Palmer, Donald Goodsell, Mrs. Faye Clancy, Mrs. Lois Harvey, Mr. & Mrs. Les Fish, Mrs. Josephine Main, Mrs. Edna Marvin, Mrs. Helen Morse, Mrs. Jean Perry, Mrs. Vesta Rice, Mr. & Mrs. Emmette Smith, Mr. & Mrs. H.K. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Elwyn Steadman, Victor Carpenter, Mrs. Alice Evans, James Mullen, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Spencer, Larry Wilson, Miss Ruth Gilman, Mrs. Bette Hill, Mrs. Rabyn McMaster.
20. Dunkirk, N.Y. Lake Erie Bird Club, Terry Mosher, Allen Benton, Nancy Bowser, Doug Carlson, Sylvia Clarke, Janine Flory, Joanne Goetz, Joe Gula Morgan Jones, Judy Kumler, Phil Kumler, Terry Mahoney, Lucille Neveu, Aristine Richardson, Bev Ruska, John Ruska, Marty Sanden, Fred Woods, Jane Woods.
21. Cherry Creek, N.Y. Frances Rew, Lois Buck. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Eileen Anderson, David Dister, Jennie Freeman, David Gagne, Julie Heilman, Marty Hendrickson, Dorothy Pitelblad, Carol Roby, Susan Suckew, Marion Werner.

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

22. Sherman, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, David Dister, David Gagne, Elizabeth Pillsbury, Robert Price.
23. Frewsburg, N.Y. Jamestown Audubon Society, Robert Sundell, Carl Belknap, Gilbert & Inez Burgeson, Elizabeth Calatane, Daniel Cordosi, David Dister, David Gagne, Laura Keller, Stephen Maggio, Joanne Nelson, Jean Pigman, Elizabeth Pillsburg, Thomas Simons.
24. Allegany, N.Y. (S.P.) no report.
25. Allegany, N.Y. Cattaraugus County Bird Club, Tim Baird, Lucille Bordonaro, Fred Meyer, Regina Van Scoy, James Van Scoy, Meredith Van Scoy.
26. Cuba, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Mary Jordan, Ann Acott, Betty & John Compton.
27. Bolivar, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lillian Simons, Betty, Jim & Mike Hooker, Frances DeGroff, Wilma Sanford, Helen Apsey.
28. Alfred, N.Y. Allegany County Bird Club, Doris Burton, Lois Chapman, Charles Baube, Betsy & Warren Brooks, Carla Coch, Larry & Harriette Deverell, Pete & Terry Finlay, Eva Ford, Clarence Klingensmith, Cathy MacDonald, Agnes & Everett Rhodes, Steve Weinman.
- Fred & Dorothy Bayless, Russell Allen, Don, Lorna & Tara Brink, Martha DeLaVergne, Jay & Louise Gibson, Mildred Hayes, Fay & Ben Heller, Linn Phelan, Violet Sharrett, Gladys & Allen Witter.
- Vivian Pitzrick, Bea Common, Wisner Cook, Kathy & Tom Kent, Ken & Marian McClure, Connor Stephens, Mrs. Allan Tuttle, Howard Ward, Lou Burton, Mallory & Mary Adams, Kenneth Balmas, Clifford Button, Lloyd & Sandra Hotchkiss, Matthew Hotchkiss, Raymond Pitzrick, James Velente.
- Mrs. Bror Larson, Vera Brown, David & Roberta Clark, Dale & Evelyn Coats, Robert & Claribel James, Genevieve McQueen, Lynn Rositzke, Lorena & Theodore Vossler, Mrs. Ira Brown, Mrs. Jack Frank, Mrs. Helen Graves, Harold Fauzey, Mrs. Wayne Lang, Mrs. Evelyn Openhym, David & Ona Reynolds, Mrs. Norbert Shear, Mrs. George Smith, Mrs. Frank Short, Jr., Dr. & Mrs. Harvey Spencer, Mrs. Bruce Taggart, Mrs. Gordon Taggart.

Total Observers: 245

Report of Fall Bird Count cont.

The following reflect an all-time high for the October Count: Double-crested Cormorant 77; Green-backed Heron 11; Red-breasted Merganser 214; Red-tailed Hawk 209; American Kestrel 122; Merlin 2; Wild Turkey 166; Lesser Yellowlegs 19; Solitary Sandpiper 13; Hudsonian Godwit 1; Great Black-backed Gull 231; Forster's Tern 2; Rock Dove 3,335; Long-eared Owl 3; Pileated Woodpecker 11; Red-headed Woodpecker 16; White-breasted Nuthatch 332; Northern Mockingbird 32; Veery 1; Eastern Bluebird 135; and House Finch 856.

A steady decline is reflected in the following species showing an all-time low: American Black Duck 167; Northern Pintail 11; Green-wing Teal 25; Greater Scaup 201; Common Moorhen 1; Cedar Waxwing 728; Yellow-rumped Warbler 526.

However, making a comeback are: Horned Grebes (highest since 1977); Pectoral Sandpipers; Ring-billed Gulls; Mourning Doves; Kingfishers; Blue Jays; Tufted Titmice; Golden-crowned Kinglets (highest since 1976); Evening Grosbeaks; and Juncos (highest since 1975).

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

January 25th: Dr. Gerry Leubner, Genesee Ornithological Society. Slides of the 100 bird prints from the reports of the U.S. Army Expeditions in 1853-1856 to explore possible routes for the Pacific Railroad, plus a little of the history of these expeditions.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

February 19th: Ontario Plains. Meet at Tops Market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from Lewiston exit on Route 104. Leaders; Harriette & Walter Klabunde (754-4424).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

BACK ISSUES:

Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

\$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:

Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (Printing), Bonney
Harnish (mailing), Shirley Wake (typing).

EDITOR:

Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.

49
THE PROTHONOTARY FEB 22 1984

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

THE

BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

VOLUME 49

DECEMBER 1983

NUMBER 12

THE MONTH

November offered a succession of wet and unstable weather patterns with the first significant snowfall of the season occurring on the 4th; up to twelve inches of snow were recorded in Niagara and Orleans counties and heavy flurries and squalls hit the traditional snow belt area south of Buffalo. This preview of winter was followed by a period of unseasonably mild weather with the temperature climbing to a balmy 67° (F) on November 9th. New cold fronts brought more snow on the 11th and the 17th and there were gale force winds with gusts up to 60 m.p.h. on November 21st. Milder weather again prevailed until November 23th when a deep low pressure system precipitated thunderstorms followed by freezing rain which changed to locally heavy snow squalls the following day. Up to two feet of snow was deposited in the Town of Lancaster in Erie County by squall activity and a state of emergency restricting travel and closing schools was declared. This same weather system dumped eighteen inches of snow on Genesee County to end the month on a decidedly wintry note. The average temperature for the month was 40.8° (F), 0.5° above average while precipitation in the form of rain and snow measured 5.19 inches, 1.5 inches above normal. (Meteorological data as recorded at Greater Buffalo International Airport.)

November was an exciting month afield. The ornithological event of the month was the observation of a Townsend's Solitaire in an orchard in a rural area just north of Fonthill in Lincoln County, Ontario. It is the first record of this western thrush for our study area although The Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ontario (James, McLaren & Barlow, 1976) lists six previous sight records including one bird photographed in Toronto and one specimen collected. The solitaire was seen on November 6th by Dr. Richard Knapton of the Biology Department of Brock University at St. Catharines, Ontario who discovered it associating with a flock of Eastern Bluebirds. It called repeatedly and the diagnostic white outer retrices, white eye ring and buffy wing patches were clearly seen. Dr. Knapton is familiar with this species having previously seen it in Arizona and British Columbia.

Chautauqua County was the scene of many interesting waterfowl records in November, the most remarkable of which was the influx of large numbers of Tundra Swans between the 23rd and the 26th. Frances Rew saw the greatest concentration of these birds on Chautauqua Lake near Mayville on November 26th when she counted 2350 swans. The flight began on the 24th when Rew and Lois Buck saw 600 swans in a bay of the lake near Mayville. When she returned to the scene on the 26th, the entire length of the bay was covered with swans; she estimated 1900 swans on the water with an additional 100 in a flock flying south on the east side of the lake and also 206 swans at Dewittville and 150 at the Chautauqua Institute. On the following day, 1097 swans were still present in that area. As part of the same flight, Dave Gagne counted 750 swans flying over Jamestown on November 25th and Steve Eaton saw "three flocks" over Great Valley in Cattaraugus County on that date. Ward Klepfer saw 17 swans on Lake Erie at the foot of Stone Mill Road in the Town of Fort Erie.

Other waterfowl records of interest from Chautauqua County include 130 Gadwall seen at the Burgeson Sanctuary near Jamestown by Dave Gagne on November 12th. This sanctuary and the Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge in Orleans County have the largest local breeding populations of this duck in our study area. There was an excellent flight of Hooded Mergansers on Chautauqua Lake in November; a flock of 44 birds was reported by Terry Mosher and Richard Miga on November 12th and 300 were seen at Lakewood and 140 at Celoron by Dave Gagne and Dave Disher on November 28th. A flock of 115 Ruddy Ducks was reported from Bertis Bay on Chautauqua Lake by Dave Disher on November 21st. A male Eurasian Wigeon was seen by Robert Andrle and many others on the BOS field trip to Niagara Falls, Ontario on November 20th. The bird was seen in the rapids above the Falls in the company of a number of American Wigeons offering an excellent chance for the observer to compare the two species. The diagnostic pale gray sides, grayish back, pinkish breast and reddish brown head with yellow cap of this bird were immediately discernable to all observers. A female King Eider was seen by many bird-watchers during November at the mouth of the Niagara River at Niagara-on-the-Lake. On November 16th, Bruce Chilton observed a female Common Eider at the Lake Erie shoreline east of the harbor in the City of Dunkirk. On November 13th, an adult male Barrow's Goldeneye was reported from Dufferin Island near the upper rapids of the Niagara River at Niagara Falls, Ontario; it is presumably the same bird that has wintered in this location since 1976. On November 6th, Bob Andrle and Jim Gregory saw a flock of 24 Brant in the gorge below the Falls at Niagara Falls, Ontario, a most unusual location for these geese. Once again this year, no local observers witnessed the brant flight on Lake Ontario. On November 4th, 3000 Brant were counted in their autumn passage on Lake Ontario at Rochester.

At least three Purple Sandpipers were seen at various times in November by many observers among the rocky islets in the rapids of the upper Niagara River just above the Canadian Falls. There were virtually no records of phalaropes this fall and none reported in November.

Until mid-month, both numbers and species of gulls at Niagara Falls were comparatively low. During a field trip to Niagara Falls, Ontario on November 13th, only five species were seen but one of which was the first Lesser Black-backed Gull of the season at that location. It was seen by Robert Andrle and his group, resting on the rocks in the rapids above the Canadian Falls. The slate gray mantle and yellow legs of the subspecies Larus fuscus graellsii were clearly seen. By the

following weekend, the picture was fortunately somewhat changed with over 100 bird-watchers from groups in Michigan, Ohio and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as well as "the regulars" from Buffalo, Hamilton and Toronto in attendance. "Wings," a commercial bird tour agency also had a group present led by Peter Grant, author of an identification guide to the gulls. On this weekend, 11 species of gulls were seen although the number of birds was still below average for this time. On November 19th, a first-winter Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen in the gorge below the Falls while downriver at the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station overlook, an adult Common Black-headed Gull, an immature Thayer's Gull and an adult Iceland Gull were seen. On the 20th, the first Glaucous Gull of the season, an adult, was seen by Andrie's party in the upper Niagara River rapids at Niagara Falls. Andrie's group also saw a second adult Iceland Gull and an adult Thayer's Gull at the Sir Adam Beck station overlook. The number of gulls on the Niagara River increased rapidly during the last ten days of November, including counts of several thousand Bonaparte's Gulls and 156 Greater Black-backed Gulls at Niagara Falls on the 23rd. Two immature Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen at the base of the Canadian Falls by Maxine and Wavel Barber on November 26th. They also reported two adult Lesser Black-backed Gulls at the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station overlook on that date. Only a few records of individual Little Gulls were reported on the Niagara River in November and for the second year this species has been scarce on the Niagara Frontier during its autumn dispersal through the Great Lakes region.

The first Snowy Owl of the season was reported by Bob Andrie from Donnelly's Pier in Buffalo Harbor on November 13th. It does not appear to be a major flight year for this owl. Other records of interest include a Common Raven seen by Steve Eaton in the Town of Great Valley in Cattaraugus County on November 21st and a late female American Redstart observed by Bruce Chilton in a small deciduous woodland in the center of Goat Island in the Niagara River at Niagara Falls on November 23rd.

Joseph F. Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, N.Y. 14217

NOVEMBER NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Underlined common names, dates or localities indicate that an acceptable, detailed written verification according to the 'Date Guide to Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) has been received and placed in the permanent files of the Buffalo Ornithological Society.

- * - Indicates first record for the year.
- F - Indicates first record for the migration.
- L - Indicates last record for the migration.
- (f) - Indicates record from feeding station.

Common Loon	Nov.	8	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess
	"	6	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	6	4	Barcelona	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	6	20	Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	13	2	Lewiston	D'Anna et al
	"	14	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	D'Anna, Dishau
	"	19	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Hess et al
	"	25	2	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Thill
Pied-billed Grebe	"	2	1	Town of Hume	Palmer
D-crest. Cormorant	"	10	3	Dunkirk Harbor	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	24	3	Dunkirk Harbor	O'Dell
	"	26	2	Grand Island	O'Dell
Great Blue Heron	"	1,5	1,2	Spring Brook	Danner
	"	13	1	Alfred	Brooks
B.-cr. Night-Heron	"	13,14,18,23	3,3,3,3	Buffalo	O'Dell
Tundra Swan	"	24	47	Dunkirk Harbor	Moshers
	"	24,26,27	600,2350,		
	"		1097	Mayville	Rew, Buck
	"	28	17	Town of Fort Erie	Klepfer
Brant	"	6	24	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Gregory
	"	12	12	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Chilton
Canada Goose	"	1-30	200-300	Town of Hume	Palmer
	"	6	30	Town of Wales	Rosche
	"	23	4	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	25	65	Richburg	Burtions et al
	"	28	45	Town of Fort Erie	Klepfer
Green-w. Teal	"	13	4	Niagara Falls	D'Anna et al
Northern Pintail	"	13	3	Niagara Falls	D'Anna et al
Blue-w. Teal	"	12 L	1	Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Miga
Gadwall	"	13	2	Niagara Falls	D'Anna et al
Eurasian Wigeon	"	20	1	Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al (BOS)
American Wigeon	"	6	35	Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	12	60	Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Miga
Redhead	"	27	300	Mayville	Rew, Buck
*King Eider	"	25	1	Niagara-on-the-Lake	Andrle, Thill
*Common Eider	"	16	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Chilton
Black Scoter	"	23	3	Fort Erie, Ont.	Becker
White-w. Scoter	"	6	8	Canadaway Creek N.S.	Rew et al (BOS)
	"	12	1	Dunkirk Harbor	Mosher, Miga
Hooded Merganser	"	12	44	Town of Chautauqua	Mosher, Miga
	"	13	1	Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	13,26	3,1	Alfred	Brooks
	"	27	74	Mayville	Rew, Buck
Ruddy Duck	"	6	5	Cassadaga Lake	Mosher
	"	22	3	Bear Lake	Mosher
	"	26	29	Mayville	Mosher, Chilton
Northern Harrier	"	8	2	Rock Point Prov. Pk.	Hess
	"	24	1	Town of Pomfret	Mosher
	"	26	1	Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
	"	27	1	Town of Holland	Becker

Cooper's Hawk	Nov.	3	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	12	1 Alden	Wolfling
"	"	22	1 Darien Center	Harper
"	"	24	1 Pekin	Barbers
"	"	27	1 Buffalo	Andrle et al
Rough-leg. Hawk	"	12 F	1 Town of Amity	Burton, Jordan
"	"	26	1 Maple Springs	Rew, Buck
"	"	26	1 Town of Charlotte	Rew, Buck
Common Moorhen	"	1,9 L	1,1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
L. Golden Plover	"	13	1 Town of Stafford	Keller, Mason
Greater Yellowlegs	"	13 L	1 Times Beach, Bflo.	O'Dell
Purple Sandpiper	"	13,20	2,2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	19	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Hess et al
Iceland Gull	"	25 F	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Thill
"	"	27	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
L. Black-b. Gull	"	13	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al
"	"	26	2 Adam Beck Hydro	Barbers
Glaucous Gull	"	20 F	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle et al (BOS)
"	"	25	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Andrle, Thill
"	"	27	1 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
Bl.-leg. Kittiwake	"	26	2 Niagara Falls, Ont.	Barbers
Common Tern	"	4 L	1 Dunkirk Harbor	Rew, Buck
Snowy Owl	"	13 F	1 Buffalo Harbor	Andrle et al (BOS)
"	"	18	1 LaSalle Pk., Bflo.	Hess
"	"	23-30	1 Town of Wheatfield	D'Anna, Potter
Red-bellied Wdpkr.	"	1-30	1 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	12	1 Town of Holland	Becker
"	"	25	1 Point Gratiot	Moshers
"	"	25	1 Town of Hume	Palmer
Northern Flicker	"	1-30	1-3 Spring Brook	Danner
"	"	2	1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	12	1 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	18,23	3,3 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
Belted Kingfisher	"	8	1 Town of Sheldon	Rosche
Tufted Titmouse	"	1-30	2 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
"	"	1,10,18	1,1,1 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
"	"	2	1 Buffalo	O'Dell
"	"	6-30	2-4 Amity Lake	Pitzricks
"	"	9-14	1-2 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	15-30	3 Town of Alden	Wolfling
Ruby-cr. Kinglet	"	1 L	1 Alfred	Brooks
Eastern Bluebird	"	1,2,5	1,1,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
Hermit Thrush	"	26	1 Grand Island	O'Dell
American Robin	"	4	3 Town of Wales	Rosche
"	"	4	7 Town of Hume	Palmer
"	"	5	1 Alfred	Klingensmith
"	"	5,6,23	83,30,1 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
"	"	6,13	6,1 Alfred	Brooks
"	"	6,7	2,2 Elma	Forsberg
"	"	13	1 Niagara Falls	D'Anna
"	"	18	28 Spring Brook	Danner

Gray Catbird	Nov.	26	1 Grand Island	O'Dell
No. Mockingbird	"	5	1 Fort Erie, Ont.	Klepfer
	"	13	2 Lewiston	D'Anna et al
Northern Shrike	"	13 F	1 Dunkirk	Sanden
Yellow-r. Warbler	"	4,7,10	1,1,2 Alfred	Brooks
	"	6	12 Mayville	Rew et al (BOS)
C. Yellowthroat	"	13	1 Tiffit Farm N.P.	O'Dell
American Redstart	"	23	1 Niagara Falls	Chilton
Chipping Sparrow	"	12	1 Town of Pomfret (f)	Moshers
	"	24-27	1 Town of Holland	Becker
Fox Sparrow	"	1	1 Depew	Barbers
	"	5	1 Town of Charlotte	Rew
	"	5,6,7	1,1,1 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzricks
	"	6	4 Orchard Park	O'Dell
	"	10	1 Town of Pomfret	Moshers
	"	13-16	1 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	12-29	1 Belmont	Burtons
Swamp Sparrow	"	26	1 Town of Stockton	Mosher, Chilton
Wh.-cr. Sparrow	"	1-30	2-4 Belmont	Burtons
Wh.-thr. Sparrow	"	1,7,8-18	10,6,3 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	1-30	2-15 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	1-30	8-16 Belmont	Burtons
	"	1-30	2 Town of Alden (f)	Wolfling
	"	1-30	2 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	4-19	1-4 Amity Lake (f)	Pitzrick
	"	7,13	2,5 Alfred	Brooks
	"	9,10	19,10 Town of Amity	Pitzrick
	"	11,30	1,1 Elma	Forsberg
	"	12,15	1,2 Alfred	Klingensmith
	"	12-30	8-10 Spring Brook	Danner
	"	26	4 Grand Island	O'Dell
Snow Bunting	"	6	12 Prendergast Point	Rew et al (BOS)
Brown-h. Cowbird	"	24	10 Town of Collins	O'Dell
	"	30	3 Darien Center (f)	Harper
Red-w. Blackbird	"	8	400 Wainfleet, Ont.	Hess
Pine Siskin	"	1-6	6-12 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	13	1 Alfred	Brooks
	"	19	1 Wheatfield (f)	D'Anna, Potter
	"	28-30	8 Town of Alden (f)	Wolfling
	"	29	2 Eggertsville	Hulls
Evening Grosbeak	"	1-30	2-34 Amity Lake	Pitzrick
	"	1-30	25-30 Little Genesee	DeGroff
	"	2-18	2-40 Town of Wales (f)	Rosche
	"	2	3 Cheektowaga	O'Dell
	"	3-30	2-30 Belmont	Burtons
	"	4-30	5-16 Darien Center (f)	Harper
	"	15	2 Elma	Forsberg
	"	17-30	2-11 Orchard Park	Saville
	"	23	75 Town of Holland	Becker
	"	30	4 Alfred	Klingensmith

Species, subspecies & hybrids previously recorded this year.	269
Species, subspecies & hybrids recorded this month.	<u>2</u>
Total for year	271

ERRATUM

Prothonotary, vol. 49:7, page 113, under Yellow-r. Warbler:

change:

June	11	1 Town of Hamburg	Clark, Schaffner
		to	
June	26	1 Town of Hamburg	Clark

* * * * *

ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

Chautauqua County Field Trip

In spite of November 6, 1983 dawning misty and dreary, fourteen cheerful members gathered for a day of birding in Northern Chautauqua County.

A Common Loon, disporting itself just off the pier, greeted us at Dunkirk Harbor, our first stop. We did not know then that we would be seeing two dozen more before the day was over. One of the three Double-crested Cormorants perched on the outer harbor wall struck the typical wing-drying pose, a stance that for some reason is not seen as often here as it is along the coast or in the south. Our only Kingfisher of the day flew over the pier, calling loudly to be sure we did not miss counting him. At the Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary we had excellent views of eight White-winged Scoters flying low over Lake Erie at the creek's mouth. Land birds were noteworthy for their scarcity but by dint of hard work we did see most of the usual small wintering birds including several Yellow-rumped Warblers at Mayville.

The 44 Hooded Mergansers and 35 American Wigeons at the Beaujean Road pond were a pleasing sight and some of us saw a Great Blue Heron there, one of three we listed for the day. There were fourteen species of ducks, some in good numbers, on Chautauqua Lake at Mayville as well as many Coots, Common Loons and Horned Grebes and a few Pied-bills.

Chautauqua County Field Trip cont.

At Prendergast Point we were delighted to see a dozen Snow Buntings flitting over the water and perching on small posts just off shore. They stayed close to us during the time we birded there affording everyone a good opportunity to study them at his leisure. We ended our birding at Cassadaga Lake where we found 5 Ruddy Ducks, which brought our species count for the day to 48.

Trip Leader: Frances M. Rew

EXCERPTS FROM B.O.S. MEETING MINUTES, NOVEMBER 9, 1983

Upcoming Events: A "clean up the refuge" meeting will occur at 9:00 a.m., December 3rd at the B.O.S. Refuge on Love Road, Grand Island (rain date December 10th). Holiday refreshments were requested for the December regular meeting. Future programs and field trips were announced.

Membership: Mary Ann Stegmeier, Bobbie Tomasi and Jeff Zehr were accepted as Associate Members.

Wavel Barber announced that the annual dues will remain \$10 for individuals and \$16 for families. Also, Bill Bogacki has been elected Chairman of the Council, and Marc Chelemer, Secretary.

Walt and Harriette Klabunde are B.O.S. Charimen for the N.Y. State Federation of Bird Clubs' annual meeting to be hosted by the B.O.S. in September, 1986.

Dr. Andrie wrote Mr. Feldman of the NYSDEC to nominate the area hawk flights and gull migration for listing in the future "I Love NY" publication. Dr. Andrie, reporting on the NY State Breeding Bird Atlas meeting, stated that it was decided to hold in abeyance any plans to extend the survey another year. The Atlas publication will likely be a fair-sized book costing up to \$40. Also, the B.O.S. Date Guide is in press and the Checklist has been proofread.

The motion to donate \$100 for equipment carts to be used by the museum affiliates was untabled and passed.

Program: An excellent program on the Passenger Pigeon and the Carolina Parakeet, two extinct birds that flew in the Niagara Region, was given by Bob Klips.

Dick Christensen passed around a sign-up sheet for the discount purchase of the new National Geographic field guide. Birds of Prey pamphlets and charts were shown by Morgan Jones; they are available from the Cooperative Extension Service, Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850.

Bird Sightings: A Townsend's Solitaire has been reported from Fonthill, Ontario; Purple Sandpipers at Niagara Falls; 57 Kittiwakes west of Grimsby, Ontario; and a flight of 37 Brants in the area.

Submitted by Julia Wells

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

It's hard to believe that the third year of our 5-year March Wintering Bird Study is upon us.

With this issue of the Prothonotary is the form for reporting on the Tufted Titmouse, the Carolina Wren, the Mockingbird, the Cardinal and the House Finch, with a map of the Sectional Divisions of BOS Territory on the back.

We still have had no coverage of our Canadian territory and could use much more coverage of the Southern Tier.

The Research Committee urges all of our members to find some extra time this year and participate in this worthwhile project. So involve your neighbors, friends, classmates and members of other birding groups and make this year the best study yet.

REPORTS ARE DUE IN TO MARGARET WRIGHT BY APRIL 10TH!!!

Extra copies of the Report Form are available from Wavel Barber and Bob Klips. LET'S GO!!

Margaret Wright, Compiler

* * * * *

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

February 8th: "Birds at Tifft." Wayne K. Gall, Administrator, Tifft Farm Nature Preserve. Mr. Gall will discuss some of the avian highlights of this Buffalo Nature Sanctuary. He will also add a bit of history and administration of the area.

February 22nd: "Where the Birds Are; Part 2" Several members will discuss prime birding areas within certain sections of B.O.S. territory.

Special Notice

April 25th: "Jonnie" Fisk. Mrs. Fisk is an ex-Buffalo resident and avid birder who now resides in Arizona. She will present to us a feature entitled "The Peacocks of India." A pre-meeting dinner is being planned. Watch The Prothonotary for details.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

* * * * *

FIELD TRIPS

- February 19th: Ontario Plains. Meet at Tops Market in Lewiston at 8:30 a.m. Tops is across from Lewiston exit on Route 104. Leaders: Harriette & Walter Klabunde (754-4424).
- March 4th: Annual Owl Pilgrimage. Meet at Vermont and Busti at 8:00 a.m. or the first parking lot south of the Peace Bridge at 8:15. We will meet Blaine Farnan at Silver Bay Road at 9:00. This will be an all day trip and we will cover a lot of territory on foot and by car. Leaders: Blaine Farnan (416 - 834-7541); Marc Chelemer (716 - 885-0474).
- March 25th: Oak Orchard. Leader: Bill Burch (773-3690). Meet at Transitown at 8:00 a.m. or at Cayuga Pool at 9:30.
- April 8th: April Bird Count. Compiler: Tom Harper (547-9563).

For further information about field trips, contact Esther Becker, Field Trips Committee Chairman (537-2592; Holland, N.Y.).

* * * * *

For current bird sightings call: DIAL-A-BIRD (716) 896-1271.

(Call Buffalo Museum of Science (716) 896-5200 to report your bird sightings to be included on Dial-A-Bird.)

* * * * *

Please mail records for each month not later than the FIFTH day of the following month to the compiler, Mr. Joseph Thill, 36 Allegany Avenue, Kenmore, New York 14217.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Treasurer: William E. Townsend
31 Brenon Road
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

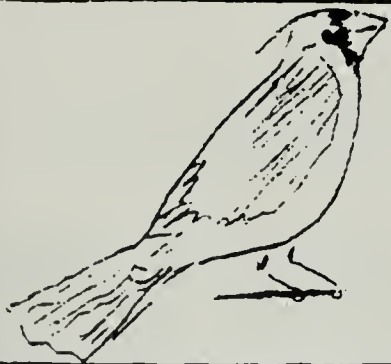
BACK ISSUES: Available from the Treasurer for \$.50 per copy.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year, payable to the Treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Assistance in the production of this issue of The Prothonotary was provided by the following people:
Wavel Barber, Pat Cordaro (Printing), Shirley Wake (typing).
Editorial Board: Marian Dornhaffer, Bradley Lown, Julia Wells

EDITOR: Robert A. Klips
268 Ashland Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
(716) 882-7956

This issue of The Prothonotary was printed with the cooperation of the Department of Biology of the State University College at Buffalo.



BUFFALO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
1984 REPORT FORM

MARCH WINTERING-BIRD SURVEY
Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird,
Cardinal, and House Finch

REPORT MUST BE IN BY APRIL 10th!

SEND REPORT TO:

Margaret Wright
Versailles 120
4545 Chestnut Rdge
Rd.
Williamsville, NY
14221

SPECIES	MARCH '84	No. of Birds at Feeder	No. of Birds seen elsewhere	No. of Section(s) studied	Member B.O.S.?	Any Unusuals?
TUFTED TITMOUSE	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
CAROLINA WREN	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
MOCKING BIRD	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
CARDINAL	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					
HOUSE FINCH	1st week					
	2nd week					
	3rd week					
	4th week					
	5th week					

ANY COMMENTS?

NAME AND
ADDRESS OF OBSERVERS :

No. Observers :



Sectional Divisions of
Territory of the Buffalo Ornithological Society

Tifft Farm Spring Programs cont.

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD BANDING - Saturday, 23 April 1984

Leader: Karen Geiger

Time: 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Bird banding is a method of marking individual birds for scientific research. Banding may only be done by licensed bird banders who have met rigid licensing requirements. This program will demonstrate the techniques of bird banding, offering the participants an unusual opportunity to see birds at close range. Bring bird identification guides and dress warmly for this event.

Fees for these programs are:

Adult BSNS member	\$2.50
Adult non-member	\$3.50
Member's child	\$.50
Non-member's child	\$1.00

Advance registration is required. Please call the Buffalo Museum of Science at (716) 896-5200, Ext. 201.

Additionally, the following programs will be offered in May and June:

BIRDING AT TIFFT FARM AND TIMES BEACH

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS

DAWN BIRD WALKS

BREEDING BIRD WORKSHOPS

For details see the next issue of The Prothonotary, or call the Museum.

INDEX TO VOLUME 49 (JANUARY - DECEMBER 1983)

Bird records from the Noteworthy Records of The Prothonotary and the B.O.S. Bird Counts requiring written verification according to the 'Date Guide to the Birds of Western New York and Adjacent Ontario' (B.O.S. 1976) are included in this index.

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Am. Avocet	94	Goshawk	71,93,148
Blackbird, Yellow-hd.	59,97	Gull	
Cormorant, Double-cr.	87,87	Common Black-hd.	138,149
Eagle, Golden	71	Iceland	5
Eider, Common	172	Lesser Black-bk.	23,41,58,157
Falcon, Peregrine	93,157	Heron, Yellow-cr. Night	112
Flycatcher, Acadian	94,112	Ibis, Glossy	93
Flycatcher, Ash-thr. (hypothetical)	113	Kittiwake, Bl-leg.	173
Gannet	70	Oriole, Orchard	113
Goldeneye, Barrow's	4,22	Pelican, White	92
Goose, Barnacle	57	Raven, Common	95
Goose, White-fr.	57	Sandpiper, Buff-br.	137

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>NO</u>
Sparrow		Renning, Karen	27,32,44,46	Be
Clay-col.	98,125		60,62,80,98	Bo
Harris	6		106,150,159,176	Ed
Sharp-tld.	158	Rew, Frances	83,113,175	Pr
Sandpiper, Western	124	Rosche, Olga	64,117	
Swan, Mute	137	Schnell, Paul	64	
Vireo, White-eyed	95	Thill, Joseph	1,20,38,54,67	Re
Vulture, Black	93		89,109,121,135	
Warbler			146,154,169	
Kentucky	97	Walker, Barbara	161	PO
Worm-eating	124	Wells, Julia	34,160	Wi
Yellow-thr.	6	Wendling, Marie	7	
Waxwing, Cedar (color-var.)	87	Wright, Margaret	114	
Wigeon, Eurasian	172	Zebehazy, Michael	81	
Wigeon, European	70			
<u>ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES</u>				
		Reports of meetings	27,32,44,46,60	
			62,80,82,98,105	We
			150,159,160	fo
		Field Trips:		Bu
		Niagara River Trip	27	
		Ontario Plains	45	Ma
		In Pursuit of Owls	60	
		Braddocks Bay	81	
		Canadian Shore	138	
		Chautauqua County	175	
		Bird Counts:		
		Christmas Count	28	Ma
		April Count	75	
		May Bird Count	100	
		U.S. Fish & Wildlife Count	139	
		October Count	161	Ap
<u>NOTES</u>				
		Early Nesting of Mourning Doves	47	
		Color-marked Common Terns	132	
		Conservation Items	64,116	Ap
		It's That Time Again	177	
		Nesting of the Amer. Kestrel	64	
		New Members	33,161	
		Pan-American Shorebird Program	51	
			89	Fo
				(8)
<u>FEATURE ARTICLES</u>				
AOU Bird Name Changes	83			
Bird Banding 1982	47			
Birding in Churchill	34			
In Memoriam - Harold Mitchell	7-14			
March Winter Bird Survey	114			
John Morse Retires	106			
Spring Hawk Migration at Grimsby	126			
<u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>				
Andrle, Robert	14,83,113			
Axtell, Harold	13			
Barber, Maxine	82			
Barber, Wavel	62			
Bogacki, William	28			
Brill, Kastle	49,63			
Brooks, Elizabeth	87			
Brockner, Winston	10			
Burch, William	15,106,138			
Chelemer, Marc	100			
Christensen, Richard	132			
Harper, Thomas	47,75			
Horbett, Audrey	86			
Klabunde, Harriette	45			
Klabunde, Walter	45,126,139			
Klepfer, Ward	9			
Klips, Robert	118			
Morse, John	161			
Norcross, Jayne	47			
Pitzrick, Vivian	86			

<u>GE</u>	<u>NOTICES</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
46	Banquet Announcement	89
98	Books Available	35,132
76	Editor's Note - Help!	118
75	Program for the Convention of	
17	the Federation of New York	
64	State Bird Clubs	109
67	Request for Use of the New AOU	
35	Names in Reports of Birds	113

POEMS

7	Wildlife Management in N.Y.S.	49,63
---	-------------------------------	-------

MEETINGS

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, September 1 through June 15 inclusive, excepting the fourth Wednesdays in November and December, in the Society's clubroom at the Buffalo Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m.

March 14th: "Species Report: Owls at Amherst Island." Several B.O.S.'ers visited this Canadian haven to wintering owls and other raptors. A combination of excellent photography and some literary investigations will yield an exciting program about the life histories of these elusive predators.

March 28th: "The Dishaw Brothers." No, it's not a new criminal gang. These two gentlemen write a nature column for the Niagara Falls Gazette and are active in the Niagara Ornithological Society. They will speak to us on a birding topic gleaned from their files.

April 11th: Wildlife Films - "Grouse Country" and "Puffins, Predators and Pirates." Published by the Canadian Broadcasting Company, these half-hour films examine the lives, antics, and struggles of two diverse species.

April 25th: "The Peacocks of Baboquivari (Arizona)." Jonnie Fisk, a venerable birder of the Buffalo area, will return to the B.O.S. to present a program on a favorite area in Arizona and the colorful, noisy birdlife to be found there.

For further information, contact Marc Chelemer, Program Committee Chairman, (885-0474, Buffalo, N.Y.).

